# Opportunities & Updates

**Pledge Ingathering Today:** Make your pledge in support of Christ Church Detroit's mission & ministries in 2027 by filling out a paper pledge card, found at the entrances, or online at christcd.org/pledge-card. We are gathering and blessing our pledges today on the Feast of Christ the King, though pledges continue to be welcome and invited, at any time of year! The theme of the 2027 pledge campaign is Plenty Good Room, which, as Stewardship Chair Dean Simmer writes, is a reminder that our faith and our parish are places where there is room and a welcome for everyone!

**Calling All New Members!** If you are new or newish and you wish to "make it official" and be recognized as a new member of Christ Church, you're invited to take part in a special rite of welcome today, at either service. We're thrilled to celebrate you as integral parts of this vibrant community!

**Healing Ministry Training:** We are starting to revive our practice of offering healing prayer at some 10:30 a.m. services. We are looking for people to train - or refresh training - as healing prayer ministers and share God's presence in this way. If this opportunity speaks to you, please attend a brief training **today in St. Michael's Chapel** (the side chapel nearest the Atrium) following the 10:30 a.m. service, led by Archdeacon Tim Spannaus and Seminarian Tom Rich.

**Sanctuary Pew Modifications:** The front pew removal project was reviewed and approved by our Vestry and will begin as early as November 29th/30th. The front row of pews will be removed, and the modesty rail moved back, to create more room in the transept (crossing) for accessible movement, such as during communion, and more versatile arrangement of instruments and ensembles. With any questions, please contact Rev. Emily (emily@christcd.org) or Dr. Ed (emakischramm@gmail.com).

**Congregational Forums:** There are many important projects, exciting opportunities, and interesting challenges ahead of our congregation and our neighborhood. Join parish leaders during Breakfast and Coffee Hour on upcoming Sundays to learn what's going on and how you can support Christ Church's mission to be a beacon of hope in the heart of Detroit, as our city changes.

- **December 6th: Major Building Improvements** that are needed ahead of the upcoming I-375 reconstruction and what our plans could involve
- **December 13th: Climate Resilience Hub:** What it is & what service opportunities it presents

**Community Chorus Concerts:** The 75-voice Community Chorus & Orchestra of Detroit conducted by Dr. Edward Maki-Schramm will present *The Very Best Holiday Concert of 2026* on Friday, December 11th at 8 p.m. & Saturday, December 12th at 4 p.m. at Christ Church Detroit. The concerts will feature the first part of J. S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio, as well as other holiday favorites by Rutter, Hailstork, Forrest, and more. $25 tickets are available at communitychorusofdetroit.com and $30 at the door.

**Program Ads for the Community Chorus:** The Community Chorus of Detroit is looking for ads to include in their December concert programs, which will be in the hands of hundreds of music lovers, Detroit fans, and community enthusiasts! If you would like to purchase a program ad for your business or organization, please contact Dr. Ed Maki-Schramm at emakischramm@gmail.com. Print-ready art is due electronically to Ed by December 1st. Acceptable formats include image files (.jpg, .tif, etc). Payment may be made by cash or check ("Community Chorus of Detroit", 960 E Jefferson Ave, Detroit 48207) or by PayPal to communitychorusofdetroit@gmail.com. (Ads do not include patron benefits.)

- One line ($35) - 20 words maximum
- ⅛ page or business card plus ($130) - 4" x 2.5" h
- ¼ page ($200) - 8.25" x 2.5" h or 4" w x 5.25" h (preferred)
- ½ page ($350) - 8.25" w x 5.25" h
- Full page ($500) or full-page back cover ($700; back cover only may be color - no extra charge) - 8.25" w x 10/75" h

## Advent & Christmas

**Holiday Greens Sale:** Beautiful evergreens fresh from Eastern Market will be available to purchase on Sundays, November 29th and December 6th. All proceeds will benefit the Sunday School, helping our Godly Play and teen programs to grow. See the list of the items that will be available, and make your plans to purchase them on the 29th & 6th. Cash, checks, and credit cards will be accepted!

**Advent Diaper Drive:** Can you believe that we've reached the 13th year for our Advent Diaper and Formula Drive?! Christ Church Detroit's Outreach Committee began this diaper drive over a decade ago to help provide crucial supplies to new parents in Detroit. And a few years ago, we adapted the drive to include baby formula donations as well. We are accepting donations through Christmas Eve, and larger infant and toddler size diapers are greatly appreciated.

Because diapers and formula are so expensive, we also welcome monetary donations to be used for purchase of these important supplies on your behalf. You can give contributions to Eamon Harnois or Lu Arambula, or place a check in the offering place. You may also donate at christcd.org/online-giving – just put "Diaper Drive" in the memo line.

Please help us to abundantly restock area charities with diapers and powdered formula this Advent season. As Rev. Emily says, "Baby Jesus needs to be cleanly swaddled … and fed." What a lovely way for us all to prepare together for Christ's birth!

**Advent Lessons & Carols:** On Wednesday, December 16th, at 7:00 p.m., the Choirs and Clergy of Christ Church Detroit will present, along with special guests, a Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols. The service will include music from multiple ensembles, woven together with seasonal poetry and prophetic scriptures. It will be a celebration of light, hope, and the promise of new beginnings, and a light reception will follow. Mark your calendars and invite friends to join you!

**Tidings of Comfort:** A quiet, reflective Liturgy of the Longest Night, or Blue Christmas service, will be held on the winter solstice, Monday, December 21st, at 6:00 p.m., followed by a light dinner. With candle lighting, scriptures, and poetry, this evening is especially for those navigating heavy emotions during a season focused on cheer–such as grief, health struggles, or relationship strain. With music led by Maddy Wildman, come and rest in prayer and beauty and know that you are not alone.

**It's the Shiniest Time of the Year:** On Saturday, December 12th at 9:30 a.m., join the Altar Guild in the church to polish, shine, and prepare the sanctuary for Christmas Eve. Many hands make light work, and it's a fun way to share each other's company while we get the job done (and enjoy coffee and donuts!). Contact Josephine Powell (license123@aol.com) with questions or just show up!

**Greening of the Church:** On Sunday, December 20th following the 10:30 a.m. service, all are invited and encouraged to help "green the church" for Christmas. Decorate Christmas trees, hang garlands and wreaths, set up the creche … It's so much fun, and a hearty lunch will be provided!

**De-Greening the Church:** Well, what goes up must come down! On Sunday, December 27th following the 10:30 a.m. service, stick around for a few minutes to take the wreaths and garlands down.

**Christmas Pageant** rehearsals are starting! If you or any youth or children you know are interested in participating, please contact Carol Ambrogio, Youth Choir Director, at carol@christcd.org. Most rehearsals will take place on Sunday mornings, and the pageant is presented at the 5:00 p.m. Family Eucharist on Christmas Eve, December 24th. There are roles for all ages and it's not too late to join!

**Christmas Eve Services:** On Thursday evening, December 24th, please join Christ Church and bring your family and friends to worship on Christmas Eve. At 5:00 p.m., the children will present a festive pageant as part of our family Eucharist. At 9:00 p.m., the Choir will present John Rutter's *Magnificat* in prelude to the classic candlelight Eucharist at 9:30 p.m.

## Today's Schedule

The Feast of Christ the King

**8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Pledge Ingathering & Welcome of New Members – St. Elizabeth's Chapel**

8:45 a.m. Breakfast in Cary Lounge

9:00-10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal in Choir Room & Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Nursery open

9:30 a.m. Youth Pageant Rehearsal & Sunday School in Lower Level

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study in Sibley House

**10:30 a.m. Festival Eucharist with Pledge Ingathering & Welcome of New Members – Sanctuary**

12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour Lite in Ledyard Hall

12:30 p.m. Bag Lunch Ministry at Jefferson Entrance

1:30-4:00 p.m. Community Chorus of Detroit Rehearsal in Ledyard Hall

**Sunday, November 29th** • The First Sunday of Advent
Mr. Tom Rich, preaching
Holiday Greens Sale, Advent Diaper Drive begins

**Sunday, December 6th** • The Second Sunday of Advent
The Rev. Dr. David D. Dieter, preaching

**Friday, December 11th**
Community Chorus of Detroit Concert, 8:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 12th**
Altar Guild Brass Polishing, 9:30 a.m.
Community Chorus of Detroit Concert with Afterglow, 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 13th** • The Third Sunday of Advent
The Rev. Emily Williams Guffey, preaching

**Wednesday, December 16th**
Advent Lessons & Carols with Afterglow, 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 20th** • The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Hanging of the Greens, with lunch, 12:00 p.m.

**Monday, December 21st**
The Longest Night: A Blue Christmas Service, 6:00 p.m.
Light Dinner, 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, December 24th** • Christmas Eve
Family Eucharist & Pageant, 5:00 p.m.
Choral Prelude: Rutter's Magnificat, 9:00 p.m.
Classic Candlelight Eucharist, 9:30 p.m.

**Sunday, December 27th** • The First Sunday after Christmas
Holy Eucharist with Christmas Poetry, 8:15 a.m.
Holy Eucharist with Christmas Lessons & Carols, 10:30 a.m
De-Greening the Church, 11:30 a.m.

## About the Liturgical Arts

The season after Pentecost – ordinary time – culminates in a feast called Christ the King. When Pope Pius XI declared this feast day in 1925, it was "in response to growing secularism (atheism) and secular ultra-nationalism." That sounds achingly familiar today, and although not an official feast day in the Episcopal Church, it is widely observed, including here at Christ Church, where we also embrace it as our congregation's "patronal feast" or celebration of our naming.

The flowers on the high altar are given to the glory of God for the Feast of Christ the King and to celebrate the November 21st birthday of Dr. Edward Maki-Schramm, dedicated with love by Roger Maki-Schramm. The white king protea in the arrangement are not only beautifully shaped like crowns and therefore magnificently appropriate symbols of the day, but were also in the arrangement Roger gave to Ed when they first started courting. The white Anthurium (heart-shaped flowers) are symbolizing the point that Jesus made when he said, "My kingdom is not of this world," which we interpret as a spiritual realm, the realm of hearts, or consciousness.

The flowers at the freestanding altar are given by Edwina Simpson to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bruce H. Simpson, who passed from life to life on November 22, 2009.

The flowers around the paschal candle are given by Kathy Dib to the glory of God and in loving memory of her mother Cecilia Dib, who passed from life to life on November 22, 2024.

– Richard Thomas, *Floral Iconographer*

The image on the cover is called *From the Lord's Prayer* by The Rev. Cara B. Hochhalter, who writes, "Being hungry and being in debt make people poor in our country and world. Then, so often people become victims of their own poverty…Perhaps God's kingdom (kin-dom) comes on earth as we focus on feeding and forgiving, on bread and friendship, and finding equitable solutions for those who are in debt." *From the Lord's Prayer* is reprinted with permission for non-commercial congregational use by Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, Tennessee.

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## Assisting in Today's Liturgy

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|---|---|
| *Presider & Preacher* | The Rev. Emily Williams Guffey, *Rector* |
| *Seminarian* | Mr. Tom Rich, *Postulant for Holy Orders* |
| *Musicians* | *10:30* Dr. Edward Maki-Schramm, *Director of Music & Organist*<br>The Christ Church Detroit Choir<br>with Dr. Paul Abdullah, *Assisting Conductor*<br>The Christ Church Detroit Bell Choir |
| *Lector* | *8:15* Letha Ann Steward; *10:30* Seth Lloyd |
| *Lay Eucharistic Ministers* | *8:15* Letha Ann Steward<br>*10:30* Chuck Atwater, Anthony Mitchell, Edwina Simpson |
| *Altar Guild* | *8:15* Alma Simmons; *10:30* Josephine Powell, Olivia Benbow |
| *Floral Iconographer* | Richard Thomas |
| *Livestream Team* | Desmond Jones, Jim Treece |
| *Continental Breakfast* | Betty & Patrick Warner, Letha Ann Steward, Gary MacDonald |
| *Coffee Hour Lite* | Carolyn Maher, Eileen MacDonald, Gwen Ald, Kathryn Treece |
| *Children's Assistant* | Ashlynn Szostek, Chigozie Akubuiro |