

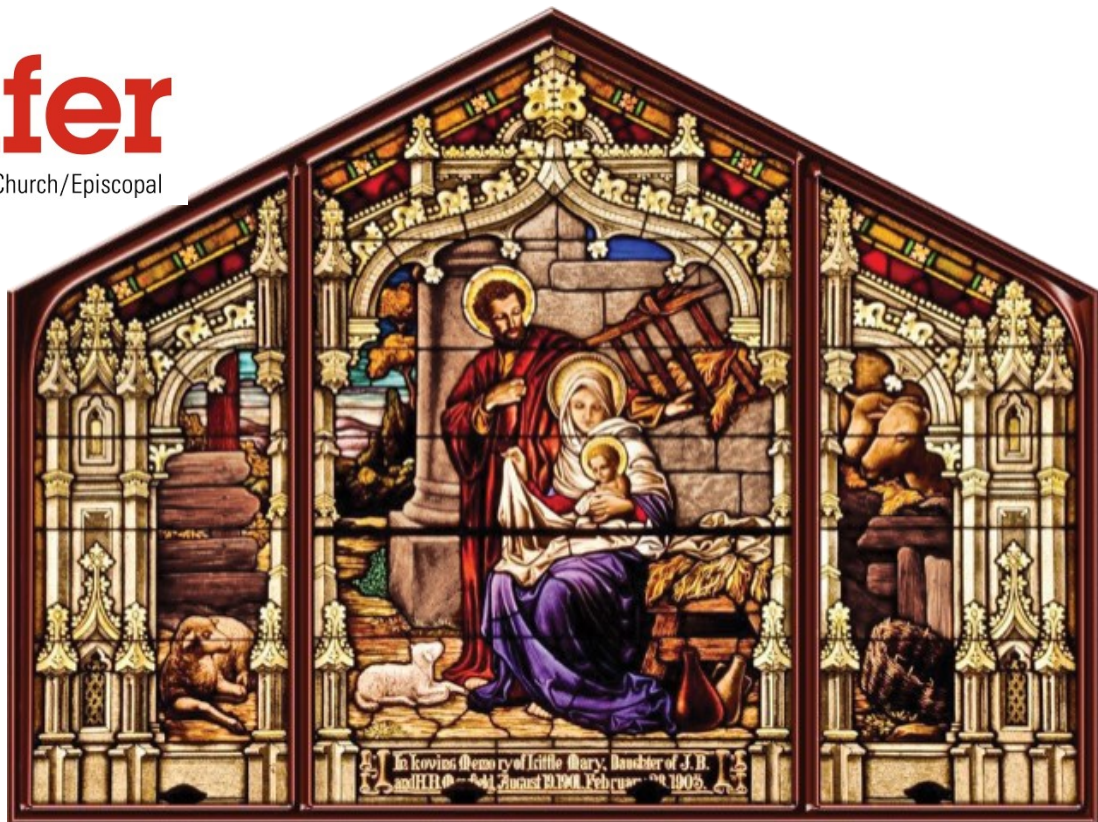
the Crucifer

The Newsletter of Christ Church/Episcopal

Vol. XXIV, No.1

December 8, 2021

christchurchtyler.org



From the Rector:

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God (to a virgin named Mary and said to her) "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will conceive and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High. . .and of his kingdom there will be no end." . . Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Luke 1:26-37

What an extraordinary young woman.

A teenager, from a humble family in a small Jewish town well off the beaten path.

Was she beautiful? Was she funny? Was she bright? Was she fast?

We do not know. It does not say. Because it does not matter.

Mary was extraordinary – extraordinarily faithful.

It is time to celebrate anew God's miraculous gift to Mary and to us all: the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The Incarnation of Christ Jesus our Lord is a lasting reminder that God loves you, that He stands with you, and that He brings peace and hope to a weary, fractured world.

The disruptive, heartbreaking moment we continue to endure has deeply rattled the lives of many. Yet we remember that Jesus was born into a world rife with disease and anxiety.

Christmas has always stood as a yearly reminder that Christ is a light in the darkness, peace in the midst of a storm. I pray that the Good News of the coming of our Lord will fill your heart with a profound sense of peace. My Christmas hope is that you will receive anew the love which moved the Creator of the Universe to enter the world through this remarkable young woman.

Faithfully yours in Christ Jesus,



The vision of Christ Church is to be recognized as a joyful, spirit-filled community of apostles reaching out and transforming lives for Christ.

from the associate rector...

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter / *Associate Rector*

Advent & True Repentance

In Luke 3, the Gospel lesson this year (Year C) for the Second Sunday of Advent, we encounter John the Baptizer “preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.”

Now the Greek noun for “repentance” is metanoia. “Meta,” like the Latin (and English) prefix “trans”: can mean “change” and “noia” is related to the Greek nous, which means “mind” or perhaps “soul.”

What is repentance? It is a change of mind, a change of soul, even a change of heart. Notice: metanoia is not, first and foremost, a change of behavior; it is a change of mind, of heart, of soul.

This change can take place at two levels, it seems to me.

First, there is the more straightforward level of explicit, cognitive thinking. In order for thief to change his behavior and stop stealing, it is quite helpful for him to admit and to register the fact that stealing is actually morally wrong. In this sense, thought precedes behavior.

But at a deeper, more subtle level, repentance is a movement of the heart, i.e., (as Timothy Keller reminded me recently in [this article](#)*) the “control center of one’s life.”

For example, repentance is what happens when an alcoholic at a 12-step meeting says, “Hi, my name is Steve and I’m an alcoholic.” That is an act of repentance not because there’s been a shred of behavior change in the life of that alcoholic. There well may not have been (yet).

It’s repentance because it’s honest. The addict’s behavior may not have changed. What’s changed is his honesty. That is where the change of heart/mind has become a reality. Previously, he’d been lying. Lying to himself, lying to others, lying to God. But now, he’s become a truth-teller, deep in his heart.

At this deeper, more subtle level of the heart, Repentance is letting God (and, ideally, another human being) into the mess of your heart. It is rejecting your heart assumption, your heart attitude, that if others see your mess, this will undermine your worth.

I love how C. S. Lewis puts it in *Mere Christianity*:

...the only way out of [this] “hole”...[is] a process of surrender...what Christians call repentance. Now repentance is no fun at all. It is something much harder than merely eating humble pie. It means unlearning all the self-conceit and self-will that we have been training ourselves into for thousands of years. It means killing part of yourself, undergoing a kind of death...This repentance, this willing submission to humiliation and a kind of death, is not something God demands of you before he will take you back...it is simply a description of what going back to him is like. If you ask God to take you back without it, you are really asking him to let you go back without going back. It cannot happen. Very well then, we must go through with it.

What happens on the far side of repentance, after that radical step has been taken?

C. S. Lewis again. I love how he (or, rather, his character, played by Max McClain) puts it in *The Most Reluctant Saint*: “It was...like a man who, after a long sleep, has become aware that he is awake.”

This Advent, may we all come awake!

*<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2021/03/tim-keller-growing-my-faith-face-death/618219/>

Advent 2021

Virtual Morning Prayer during Advent

available at 6:00am weekdays at www.christchurchtyler.org

Tidings of Joy

Advent Noon-Time Concert Series

Tuesdays (November 29-December 21) at Noon in the Nave
followed by a light lunch in the Parish Hall

Caroling & Bonfire

Saturday, December 11 | 6:00pm
Gather at CCS to carol
followed by the bonfire about 7:00pm

Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 12 | 6:00pm
Downtown in the Nave

Children's Christmas Pageant

Christ Church South

Sunday, December 19 | 11:05am

Downtown in the Nave

Friday, December 24 | 4:00pm

Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 24

Downtown in the Nave

4:00pm Children's Pageant
7:30pm Christmas Eve Eucharist
10:30pm Festival of Lessons & Carols

www.christchurchtyler.org

children's ministry

Tina McGee / Director of Children's Ministries



★ CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Registration sheets are available on both campuses!
(You may also email your child's name and which service they will be participating in to Ms. Tina at: tmcgee@christchurchtyler.org)

CHRIST CHURCH South ★ PAGEANT PRACTICE

December 12 after the 11:05 worship
in the Great Hall at CCS.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 19 during the 11:05 service

CHRIST CHURCH Downtown ★ PAGEANT PRACTICE

December 22, 10:00am in the Nave

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 24 during the 4:00 Family Service

Parent volunteers are needed on both campuses for crowd control & stage removal. Please let Ms. Tina know if you are able to assist with this wonderful tradition.

CHILDREN'S CORNER BIRTHDAYS!

12/9 Adeline Henninger, 12/11 Dominic Hague,
12/15 Beckett Patterson, 12/17 Blayke Harrison,
1/3 Elizabeth Huggler, 1/7 Jackson Chitty



youth ministry

Laura Albea / Director of Student Ministries

Hi, youth, advent is here!

On the incarnation of Christ, I am struck by the thought of church father Athanasius: "For He was made man that we might be made God." Jesus becoming man, being obedient to God (to the point of death on a cross), defeating death & rising from the dead, and being our living hope in this life & the life to come - WOW! - was all done to create a path of redemption for us that we couldn't (or wouldn't) make ourselves. United with Christ, we now get to walk that path in our families, neighborhoods, communities, and global communities. As we remember advent with gratitude, I pray we live more & more out of our union with a redemptive God.

-Laura

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

Spring Break Sr. High mission trip to Belize
registration deadline is January 28th.

Information meeting Sunday 12/12 @ 12:15pm
in the Parish Hall

EYC Christmas Party

December 15th at CCD, 4th floor, @6:00pm.
Wear a Christmas sweater!

Youth Confirmation Classes

parent/student informational meeting
January 9th @CCD, 4th floor, @12:15pm.
Email Laura Albea to register.

Sunday Youth Christian Formation

CCD 4th Floor, 10am
lessons are covering the Advent Lectionary

Questions?

Contact Laura Albea at lalbea@christchurchtyler.org.

thanksgivings & supplications

In Our Prayers

*Please consider including the Prayer List
in your daily devotions:*

Jennifer, Lisa, Drew, Virginia, Chad, Lauren, SC,
Nita, Stephanie, Christy, Cynthia, Christi, Charles,
John, Jim, Dalton, Kirby, Chris, Austin, Lynn, Jeremy,
Barbara, Lindsey, Emmi, Matthew, Sarah, Betsy,
Nina, Steve Cindy, Gregg, Josiah, Marilyn, Julia,
Anne, Maxwell, Alexa, Donald, Shelly, Kerry, Patsy,
Diedre, Zoe, Gage, Francis, Brittini, Woody-Kaye,
Rodgers Family, Paul, Lucy, Vickie, Gina, Betsy,
Monalee, Katie, Patrick, Greg, Marie, Tommy,
Debby, Sally, Lloyd, Kristi, Memphis, Greg,
Vonice, James, The Mercer Family, Gregory,
John, Diane, W, Maxine, Carol Ann, Venetia,
Jan, Mary Ruth, Pat, Nika, Ray, Jessica, Brady, Rylan,
Vivian

The Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Ijebu North (Nigeria)

The Episcopal Church:

Dioceses of Lexington, KY & Litoral Ecuador

Diocese of Texas:

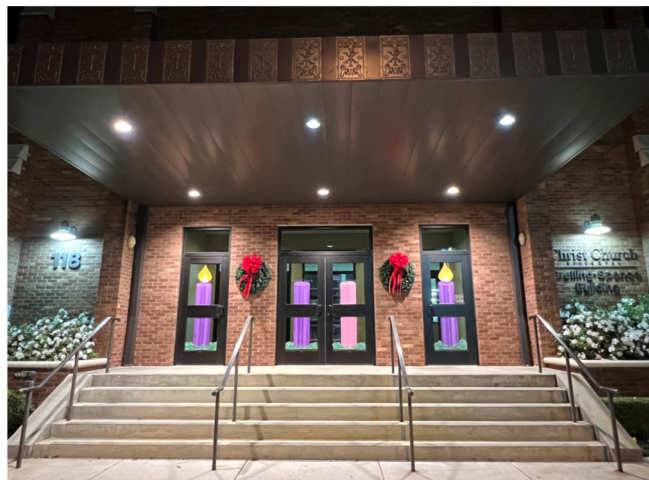
*St. Timothy's Episcopal Church—Houston
& St. Albans Episcopal Church—Houston*

Please contact The Rev. Stephen Stine with prayer list
changes or additions 903.530.8168

*The wreaths placed on the outside of the Church this year
during Advent are given to the glory of God and in memory of
departed members,*

Barbara Bain, Barbara Caserta, Charlotte Danbom,
Marsha Holliday, Vada Shaw, Chesley Walters, &
Pearl Wells

by the Episcopal Church Women.



The wreaths are accentuated by the painted candles.
Christ Church has entered the Downtown Tyler Window Decoration
Contest. Thank you Allison Hernandez for the artwork!
Each Sunday of Advent the next candle will be "lit".



THANK YOU to the 232 families who have participated
in the 2022 Stewardship campaign,
as of December 5th we have 28 new pledgors so far.

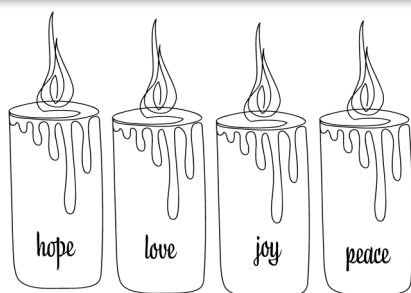
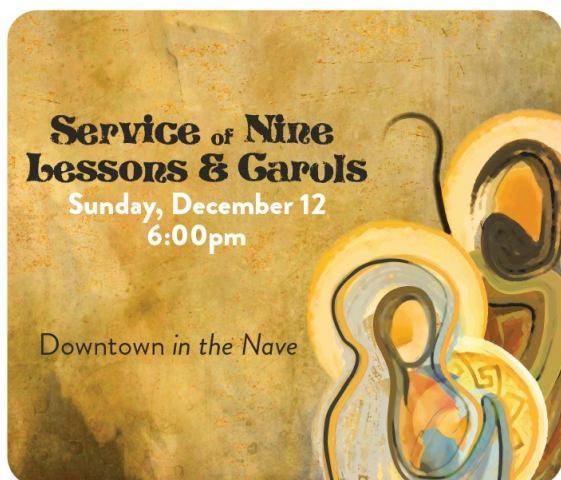
If you have any questions about making a commitment
contact, Diana Keesey, Parish Administrator, at
dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org or 903.5979854.
More information can be found at christchurchtyler.org/give.



**You are invited to participate in the celebration of Christmas at Christ
Church through the CHRISTMAS FLOWER & MUSIC FUND.**

<<— Scan the QR code to the left or complete the form (find at the reception
desk) if you wish to contribute to the placement of poinsettias in the church or help
to underwrite the music presented on Christmas Eve. Deadline December 19.





Advent Lectionary Study
 Adult Christian Formation
 10:00am both campuses

**Have you
 ever read
 the Bible from
 start to finish?**

Start a new chapter
Bible in One Year



Christ Church family,
 we are going to do it
 together in 2022.

bibleinoneyear.org



SCHEDULE:

Monday- Friday of Advent
 5:00am | *virtual*/Morning
www.christchurchtyler.org

Thurs, Dec 9

10:30am | **Women's Bible Study with the Rector** CCD
 6:00pm | **Loaves & Fishes**

Friday, Dec 10

6:00pm | **Supper Club** *Scottish Christmas Party*
 contact Kim Meyer for more information 903.530.6186

Sat, Dec 11

6:00pm | **Bonfire & Caroling** CCS

Sun, Dec 12

6:00pm | **Nine Lessons & Carols** CCD

Tues, Dec 14

8:00am | **Men's Bible Study with the Rector** CCD
 11:30 | **Praying the Rosary** CCD-Chapel
 Noon | **Tidings of Joy Concert** CCD
followed by a light lunch in the Parish Hall
 5:30 | **DOK**

Wed, Dec 15

7:15am | **Wednesday Men's Bible Study** CCD Undercroft
 10:00am | **Wednesday morning small group**
 6:00-7:30pm | **EYC**

Thurs, Dec 16

10:30am | **Women's Bible Study with the Rector** CCD
 6:00pm | **Loaves & Fishes**

Sun, Dec 19

11:05am | **Children's Christmas Pageant** CCS

Tues, Dec 21

11:30 | **Praying the Rosary** CCD-Chapel
 Noon | **Tidings of Joy Concert** CCD
followed by a light lunch in the Parish Hall

Wed, Dec 22

6:00-7:30pm | **EYC**

Fri, Dec 24 *office closes at noon reopens Tuesday the 28th*

4:00pm | **Children's Christmas Pageant** CCD
 7:30pm | **Christmas Eucharist** CCD
 10:30pm | **Festival of Lessons & Carols** CCD

Tues, Dec 28–Thurs, Dec 30 *office open until noon*

Fri, Dec 31–Mon, Jan 3 *office closed*

Sun, Dec 26 & Jan 2 *no Christian Formation*

7:30am & 10:00am | **Holy Eucharist Rite I** CCD
 11:05am | **Holy Eucharist Rite II** CCS

Sun, Jan 9 **Baptisms**

If interested in baptism on this date contact the church at
office@christchurchtyler.org or call 903.597.9854

Sun, Jan 16 **Annual Parish Meeting**

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle

Bishop of the Diocese of Texas

The Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Héctor Monterroso

Bishop Assistant

The Rev. David Luckenbach

Rector

dluckenbach@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter

Associate Rector

mboulter@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Ted Welty

Associate Rector

twelty@christchurchtyler.org

The Rev. Stephen Stine

Deacon

ssti@tjc.edu

The Rev. Kevin Wittmayer

Chaplain, All Saints, Assisting Priest kwittmayer@all-saints.org

Mr. Garrett Lane

Asst. Chaplain, All Saints

glane@all-saints.org

Mrs. Diana Keesey

Parish Administrator

dkeesey@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Jeffrey Ford

Organist/Choirmaster

jford@christchurchtyler.org

Dr. Ian Aipperspach

Assistant Organist

iaipperspach@etbu.edu

Mrs. Laura Albea

Director of Student Ministries

lalbea@christchurchtyler.org

Mrs. Tina McGee

Director of Children's Ministries

tmcgee@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Uriah Johnson

College Missioner

tylertxcanterbury@gmail.com

Mrs. Samantha Hague

Director of Communications

shague@christchurchtyler.org

Mr. Robert Finney

Music Leader, Christ Church South

epiphanytx@gmail.com

Mr. Ledell Reed

Sexton

Mr. Kendric Milton

Assistant Sexton

Ms. Jennifer Ducote

Office Assistant & Housekeeper

Mr. Anthony Moore

Sexton, Christ Church South

Ms. Laurel Maynard, Ms. Tamarian Britton, Mr. Eric Haan,

Ms. Parker Massey, Ms. Elizabeth Thorn, Mr. Austin

Green, Mrs. Ashley Falcon, Mrs. Mary Alex *Nursery*

The Vestry

Mr. Tim Alexander

Treasurer

Mr. Peter Boyd

Asst. Treasurer

Mr. Danny Noteware

Class of 2021

Mr. Clyde Beaty

Class of 2021

Mrs. Susan Bracken

Class of 2021

Mr. Rodney Schroeder

Class of 2021

Mr. Ted Walters, Senior Warden

Class of 2021

Mrs. Lou Ann Berman

Class of 2022

Mr. Steve Hardy

Class of 2022

Mrs. Christi Khalaf, Clerk

Class of 2022

Mr. John Owen, Jr. Warden CCD

Class of 2022

Mr. Tim Quinn, Jr. Warden CCS

Class of 2022

Mr. Stephen Bentley

Class of 2023

Mr. Mark Burton

Class of 2023

Mr. Jerry Sanders

Class of 2023

Mrs. Terri Squyres

Class of 2023

Mr. Bob Westbrook

Class of 2023

Pastoral Emergency Contacts

In the event of a pastoral emergency,
you may reach The Rev. David Luckenbach, Rector,
at 903-279-8777, The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter, 903-944-8494,
The Rev. Ted Welty, 903-714-7052 or
The Rev. Stephen Stine at 903-530-8168.
*You may also call the church office, 903-597-9854,
during normal business hours.*

Lectionary for upcoming Sundays Year C BCP 1979 Lectionary

Sunday, December 12

The 3rd Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Psalm 85 or
Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah;
Philippians 4:4-7 [8-9]; Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, December 19

The 4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-4, Psalm 80, Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-49 [50-56]

Sunday, December 26

The 1st Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 61:10--62:3, Psalm 147,
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7, John 1:1-18

Sunday, January 2nd

The 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 84, Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a,
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 or Luke 2:41-52 or,
Matthew 2:1-12



Christ Church | Episcopal
118 S. Bois d'Arc
Tyler, TX 75702

903.597.9854
office@christchurchtyler.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.christchurchtyler.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday Schedule

7:30 am CCD: The Holy Eucharist *Rite I*
9:00 am CCD: The Holy Eucharist *Rite II*
11:00 am CCD: The Holy Eucharist *Rite I* {live-streamed christchurchtyler.org}
11:05 am CCS: The Holy Eucharist *Rite II* {live-streamed christchurchtyler.org}

CHRIST CHURCH: ONE CHURCH—TWO CAMPUSES

CCD: Christ Church *Downtown*, 118 S. Bois d' Arc, Tyler, TX 75702 (office address)
CCS: Christ Church *South*, 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703
www.christchurchtyler.org | office@christchurchtyler.org

Please Note: *The Crucifer* is published twice monthly (except July and December).
If you have something you would like to see published in *The Crucifer*, please contact
Samantha Hague at 903-597-9854, shague@christchurchtyler.org.