



## OUR MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL

The Rt. Rev. Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia  
All Christ Church Families & Friends are Ministers

Hal Weidman, Pastor & Priest

Nancy Sartin, Deacon

Kim Dudley, Administrator

Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

Michelle Weidman, Director of Christian Education

Abigail Easton, Interim Director of College Ministry

Elise Sandbach, Director of Preschool & PMO

Issa Young, Choir Director

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist

Jacob Alward & Kylee Creasy, Nursery

Nancy Lutsko, Verger

### **OUR VISION**

To receive God's grace in Jesus Christ, and share this grace with one another and the world.

### **VESTRY**

2023	2024	2025
Brad Burnette	John Hiers	Phyllis Holland
Sandra Fletcher	Jeani Synyard	Steve Honeycutt
Dottie Pitts	Patricia Tyson	Molly Stevenson
Al Turner	Larry Wisenbaker	Mike Tanner

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Al Turner (Senior Warden)  
Steve Honeycutt (Junior Warden)  
Sandra Fletcher (Secretary)  
Stefani Carroll (Treasurer)

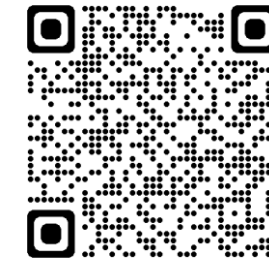
### **Ministry Chairs**

Administration – Al Turner  
Altar Guild – Lucy Tomberlin  
Acolyte, EMs & Lectors – Nancy Lutsko  
Adult Formation, DOK, Music & Worship – Molly Stevenson  
Building & Grounds – Steve Honeycutt  
Choir – Sue Ellen Rumstay  
Christian Formation – Patricia Tyson  
College Ministry – Jeri-Lyn Flowers  
Discipleship & Evangelism – Dottie Pitts  
Finance – Brad Burnette  
Foyer Groups, Parish Life & Stewardship, Endowment – Jeani Synyard  
Habitat for Humanity, Men in Blue, Outreach & Parish Life – Mike Tanner  
Hospitality – Pat Denmark  
Jamming for Jesus – Stella Clark  
Lunch Bunch – David Sandbach  
Media & Communication – Larry Wisenbaker  
Newcomers – Martin Holland  
Pastoral Care – Phyllis Holland  
Stitchers of Love – The. Rev. Dcn. Patricia Marks, Julia Ariail  
Ushers – Bobby Yarbrough  
Vespers – Phyllis Hiers

**The 10:00 service is livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA](https://www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA)  
[www.youtube.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA](https://www.youtube.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA)

# Christ Episcopal Church



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**December 3, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m.**

The church office is located at 103 East College Street.  
Mailing address: 1521 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31602  
Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM – 3 PM  
e-mail address: Father Hal – [rector@christchurchvaldosta.org](mailto:rector@christchurchvaldosta.org)  
Church website: [www.christchurchvaldosta.org](http://www.christchurchvaldosta.org)  
**Phone: 229-242-5115**      **FAX: 229-242-2247**



*Christ Episcopal Church*  
1521 N. Patterson St.  
Valdosta, GA



December 3, 2023

Advent I  
Welcome to Christ Church!  
Mobile text your gift to **844-928-4938**

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prelude – *Once He Came in Blessing*** Johann Walther, Paul Manz

**Opening Hymn – *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*** Hymn 73

**Lighting of Advent Candle**

**Opening Salutation** BCP 355

**Collect for Purity** BCP 355

**Trisagion** Hymnal S102

**The Collect of the Day** BCP 211

**The Lessons** (See Insert)

**Gospel Hymn: *Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending*** Hymn 57

**The Sermon** The Rev. Hal Weidman

**The Nicene Creed** BCP 358

**Prayers of the People (Form III)** BCP 387

**Confession of Sin** BCP 360

**The Peace** BCP 360

**Announcements** – please be seated

**Offertory – *Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God*** G.F. Handel, arr. Hal Hopson Choir

**Doxology** Hymn 380 vs. 3

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Eucharistic Prayer B** BCP 367

**Sanctus** Hymnal S125

**The Lord’s Prayer** BCP 364

**Fraction Anthem** Hymnal S164

**The Communion** BCP 364

**Communion Hymns – *Once He Came in Blessing*** Hymn 53

***Watchman Tell Us of the Night*** Hymn 640

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** BCP 365

**Blessing**

**Hymn – *Hail to the Lord’s Anointed*** Hymn 616

**Dismissal** BCP 366

**Postlude – *Aberystwyth*** Sam Batt Owens

**SPECIAL NOTES**

**WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE.** We are so glad you’re here! Father Hal, the Vestry, an Usher or a member are available to welcome you and answer your questions.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES** At 9:15am, Children in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger meet in the Education (Gabard) Building. Also, at 9:15AM Chris Roan continues her adult class on the Sunday Bible readings in the Parish Hall. At 5PM students in the 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades will meet in EYC Room in the Education Building.

**NURSERY OPENS AT 9:00AM** – The Nursery opens on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. This will give those with children 2 and under the opportunity to participate in Christian Education each Sunday morning. Children 3 and up attend Christian Education beginning at 9:15am.

**EVENING PRAYER** is held on Monday evenings beginning at 5:30 p.m. We invite you to join us.

**THE TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** led by Willa Valencia, is held at 7:30pm at the home of Ron and Tammy Borders (1718 Williams St.). All adults are welcome. Please bring your Bible—any translation.

**THE STITCHERS OF LOVE** need your donations of new or gently used stuffed animals to donate to the Children’s Advocacy Center to comfort and soothe abused children. Contact Deacon Patricia Marks at 229-630-8644 or bring the animals to the Christ Church Office.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**December 3 – 4p** – Stitches of Love – Parish Hall  
**5p** – EYC – Gabard Building  
**6p** – Vespers

**December 4 – 5:30p** – Evening Prayer – Sanctuary

**December 5 – 10a** – Garden Guild – Church Grounds  
**7:30p** – Valencia Bible Study – Borders’ Home

**December 6 – 11a** – Angel Tree Remembrance Service  
**5:30p** – First Wednesday Holy Eucharist  
**6:00p** – Dinner & Program (St. Nicholas)  
**7p** – Choir Practice – Sanctuary

**December 9 – 11a** – Lunch Bunch

**December 10 – 8 & 10a** – Holy Eucharist  
**9:15a** – Christian Education – Gabard & Parish Hall  
**11:15a** – Baptism Class - Sanctuary  
**5p** – EYC – Gabard Building  
**6p** – Vespers - Zoom

**SERVERS**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Tammy Borders, Molly Stevenson, Jeani Synyard

**Lectors:** Molly Stevenson, Katherine Mayer, Jane Kinney

**Acolytes:** JD Greneker, Molly Stevenson, Erica Thieme

**Altar Guild:** Sandra Fletcher, Sallie Honeycutt, Amber Tanner, Robin Coleman

**Ushers:** Bobby Yarbrough, Blake Yarbrough, Glen Flowers

**Greeter:** Martin Holland

**Coffee Hour:** Julie Reynolds, Gwen Daughtrey, Marcie Dennard, Leigh Long, Paula Ramey

**Audio/Visual Crew:** Julius Ariail, Charles Whiting, Larry Wisenbaker

**CHRISTMAS RECITAL** - Our annual Christmas recital will be held on Sunday, **December 17th** at 3:00 p.m. The concert will feature festive organ music by Sue Ellen Rumstay.



Kick off the Church New Year (Advent) at our annual **ADVENT WREATH-MAKING EVENT** today after the 10:00 service in the Parish Hall. Everything needed to make a fresh greenery Advent wreath will be available. If you have a wreath frame already, please bring it. If you would like to help provide greenery, please bring it with you next Sunday or call or text Michelle Weidman. We will have some advent candles available for purchase for \$8.

**HEP (Happy Episcopal People) Party**  
**Saturday, December 23, 2023 beginning at 6:00 p.m.**

H.E.P. Party: Adult Friends and Family Welcome  
Saturday, December 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM at  
David and Elise Sandbach's - 2607 Pebblewood Dr .

Please mark your calendar and plan to come and enjoy an evening of Christmas Cheer .

Drinks will be provided, please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share.

Remember this is an adult only gathering. Childcare will be provided at the church in Gabard Building.

**THE GARDEN GUILD** will meet on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. We focus on the church grounds. The Garden Guild meets each Tuesday at 10. More hardworking people are welcome to join us. Bring your gloves and tools.



**FIRST WEDNESDAY Holy Eucharist, Dinner and a Program – December 6<sup>th</sup>** we will have Holy Eucharist at 5:30pm followed by light dinner and heavy fellowship in the Parish Hall at 6:00. This month we will have a program on St. Nicholas Day. Please bring a dessert to share. Taco Salad will be provided. RSVP to the office by December 4th if you

plan to attend.



**PLEDGE CARDS** are still being accepted if you have not turned one in yet. Please turn in your pledge cards as soon as possible this aids the Finance Committee to work on the budget for 2024. Thank you for your continued support of Christ Church!

We have received **77 pledges** for a total of **\$432,530** as of November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Out of those pledges: **1 new** pledge totaling \$500.00

**8** has **previously given** but not pledged totaling \$32,620.00

**32** pledges **stayed the same** totaling \$144,830.00

**31** **increased** their pledge totaling \$213,080.00 with an increase of \$41,180.00

**5** **decreased** their pledge totaling \$41,500.00 with a decrease of \$11,060.00 (making our overall pledge increase total \$30,120.00)

**CONSIDERING BAPTISM?** - Have you ever considered being baptized and just haven't gotten around to it? Well, now is the time. Fr Hal will hold a preparation class for you and parents and godparents/sponsors (for those individuals not capable for answering questions of faith). The class meets at **11:15a.m. on December 10th, and 17th** in the Sanctuary. The Sunday we celebrate Jesus's baptism, January 7th, we will baptize those who are interested."



**HEP LUNCH GATHERING** - HEP Nooners (aka Happy Episcopal People) meet on **Friday, Dec 15** at noon, at the home of John & Marića McRae. Please bring sandwiches to share host will have soup, teas, and desserts. John and Marića McRae (2701 Green Meadow Dr.) or 229-220-5619

**OPEN HOUSE AT RECTORY** – Rev. Hal and Michelle Weidman are extending an invitation to an Open House at the Rectory on Friday, **December 15<sup>th</sup>** from **6-8pm**. Drinks will be provided, please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share. Childcare will be provided in the Gabard building from 5:30 – 8:30pm.



## The Lessons

### First Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— <sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 (Unison)

BCP 702

*Qui regis Israel*

- <sup>1</sup> Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- <sup>2</sup> In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- <sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>4</sup> O Lord God of hosts,  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?
- <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- <sup>6</sup> You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- <sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- <sup>16</sup> Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand,  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- <sup>17</sup> And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- <sup>18</sup> Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Gospel Lesson

Mark 13:24-37

<sup>24</sup>“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

**Remember in your prayers:** Ann Burnette, the Cortese family, Allan Dear, Irene Dodd, Bishop Tom Ely, Gene Greneker, Louise Harden, Peter Ingeman, Michane James, CathyAnn Kautter, Mike Lassen, the Mathis family, the Mistick family, Gnann Moser, Ray Murphy, Brett Nelson, Rocky, the Sanders family, the Stevenson family, Burt Tillman, Willa Valencia, Michelle Weidman, Chuck Whiting

*Sam Cortese – Deceased*

*Brianna Long – Deceased*

*Lois Stevenson – Deceased*