

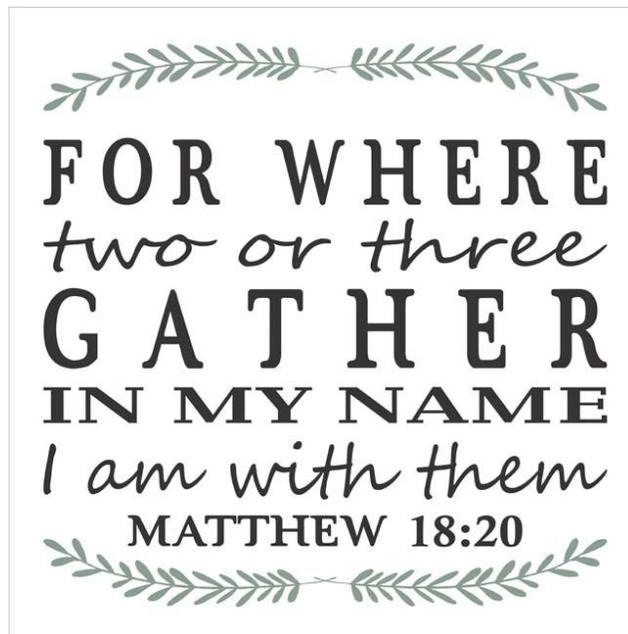
# Christ Church

The Episcopal Church in Gardiner  
Parish News

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Sunday, September 6, 2020

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



## Weekly Parish Calendar

Sunday, September 6

- 8:00 AM - Outdoor Worship (Holy Eucharist)
- 9:00 AM - Outdoor Worship (Holy Eucharist) and Streamed on Facebook Live
- 5:00 to 5:30 PM - Community Supper To-Go at Christ Church hosted by Highland Avenue Methodist Church

## A Note from Kerry about Worship and Building Use

Several of you have been asking (and many more of you have probably been wondering) when we will be able to move worship inside. For those of you anxious to worship indoors, I get it. I miss our beautiful sanctuary, as well. Although, I must admit, I have loved our outdoor worship services and wonder if we might want to have some form of outdoor worship every summer.

The Vestry met on August 16 and made some conditional decisions about worship. We will remain outside through Sunday, October 18th. On that day, Christ Church celebrates two hundred years since its consecration! We are planning a big outdoor worship and celebration for that Sunday afternoon, and as we expect that more than 50 people will attend, it will need to be outside. That means outdoor worship in September and most of October, and it will likely be getting a little chilly on Sunday mornings. Services will probably get bumped to later in the day so that it will be warmer. Watch the newsletter and Facebook for time changes.

We have a Regathering Committee considering what we will need to do to offer worship inside on October 25 and going forward. Not only will this group look at how to worship safely, but they will be looking at the trends in COVID cases in our area over the next six weeks, particularly with schools reopening. We will make decisions about worship with the most current information and guidelines possible.

If we begin to worship indoors in late October, there will be some of you who will continue to worship from home. I understand that and believe that will be a wise decision for many of you who are particularly high risk or who live with high risk family members. We will continue to stream worship services so that they are available from the safety of your home. -Kerry

## Christ Church Celebrates 200 Years



Join us on Sunday, October 18th for the  
Bicentennial Celebration!  
Outdoors at 2pm  
Registration Information Coming Soon

## **The Parish Hall Is Getting a New Roof!**

While we have been worshipping outdoors this summer in an effort to keep our community safe, attention to our beautiful and historic building has not diminished. Over the past couple of years, we have observed roof leaks in a few locations in the newer building—the Parish Hall and other rooms that connect with the historic church. In order to prevent further damage and greater repair costs down the road, it is time to replace the roof. The Vestry has agreed to a contract with G & E Roofing to replace the two flat roofs in late October or early November. As you can imagine, this will be an expensive project. The projected cost for replacing the roofs and repairing any damage from moisture is about \$60,000. If you are financially able to contribute to the new roof, please consider making a donation. Thank you!

## **Wednesdays at 11am: Morning Prayer and Study of Kings**

On the Wednesdays leading up to Advent, we'll gather through Zoom at 11am for Morning Prayer and a discussion of First and Second Kings. For September 9, we'll get an introduction to Kings and discuss Chapters 1 and 2. If you are having trouble participating with Zoom, please send Kerry a note for other options.

(You may have noticed that last week's newsletter announced we would study Exodus. I remembered, however, that we just did Exodus in the spring of 2019. I blame the slip on pandemic brain fog! -Kerry)

Zoom Invitation Here: this will be the same link each week

Topic: Morning Prayer and Bible Study

Time: Sep 9, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Wed, until Nov 25, 2020, 12 occurrence(s)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87295570348>

Meeting ID: 872 9557 0348

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,87295570348# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87295570348# US (Germantown)

## **Wedding Photos and Interest in Christ Church History?**

Christ Church has an account with Forever.com that has information about the history of our church, as well as all of our worship services that have been streamed online, current Vestry information, and so much more. The Archives Committee is looking for wedding photos. If you, or someone in your family, were married at Christ Church, please send us a photo!

And as we look forward to the celebration of two hundred years of worship at Christ Church in October, this site is a great resource for looking back at our history. Check it out! <https://www.forever.com/app/users/christ-church-episcopal>

## **Healing Prayers and Pastoral Care**

The Pastoral Care Committee is available to offer healing prayers upon request through phone calls or Zoom. If you would like to arrange healing prayers in this way, please contact Ellen Ellis, [ellenbobellis@aol.com](mailto:ellenbobellis@aol.com), or Kerry, [kerrymansir@christchurchgardiner.org](mailto:kerrymansir@christchurchgardiner.org), and they will schedule a convenient time with one of the Committee members.

Pastoral Care conversations are still possible, as well, over the phone or outdoors. Just contact Kerry to schedule.

## **Worship at Christ Church--Outdoors *and* Facebook Live**

On Sunday mornings, we are offering two outdoor worship services at 8am and 9am. Please plan on arriving a few minutes early in order to find an area of the churchyard where you can participate in worship at a safe distance from others. Masks are required when you cannot maintain physical distance. We will have some extra masks available. If you are able, please bring your own chair. It will likely be more comfortable than the metal folding chairs that we have available!

If you find it difficult to navigate the church lawn, there will be some seating available on the paved driveway. If you do not have accessibility limitations, please park in the back parking lot, allowing those who are less mobile to park along Dresden Avenue.

If we need to cancel Sunday morning worship *outdoors*, a message will be posted on our Facebook Page, website, and office voicemail. If weather does not permit outdoor worship, a service will still be streamed at 9am on Facebook Live.

If you are worshipping with us online, here's a tip about sound, using earbuds or headphones can really increase the volume!

Bulletins are emailed out on Saturdays and available on our website under the Worship tab.

Remember, you DO NOT need a Facebook account to access these live services. Here is the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Christ-Episcopal-Church-Gardiner-Maine-185946885872/>

## **Local Episcopal Churches Collaborating to Start *Sacred Ground* Groups**

(from the Episcopal Church website) *Sacred Ground* is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

*Sacred Ground* is part of *Becoming Beloved Community*, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love.

More information to come about registration. Zoom gatherings of the group will begin in late October.

Click here for an introduction to *Sacred Ground* by Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry.

<https://episcopalchurch.org/library/video/introducing-sacred-ground>

## **Beware of email and text "phishing" in Maine churches**

(From the Diocese of Maine newsletter)

Please note that fraudulent email and text requests for money wire transfers and gift cards in the names of Bishop Brown and other clergy continue to circulate around our diocese. The names on these attempts may be familiar, but the email address or phone number used will not be the one you know. No one from the Bishop's office [or Christ Church!] will ask you for gift cards or similar items (for themselves or for others) via email or text. Nobody's email or phone has been "hacked". Phishing and whaling are when someone creates a NEW email or profile to impersonate a real person.

Please don't answer these messages! These are phishing or whaling scams and the addresses should be marked as spam/blocked and reported to your provider. Phone numbers should be blocked. You may also report these attempts to the government [here](#) on the Department of Homeland Security page.

Please stay safe! Take caution in responding to any message that seems unlikely or suspicious.

## **Online Giving - Thank you!**

Our online donations have increased greatly - it always helps us to have a steady flow of income as we continue to carry out our mission, but especially during this time. Thanks to those who have taken the leap!

As you consider what method of online giving to use, you may wish to know that there are no extra fees when your contributions are taken from your savings or checking accounts. All credit/debit cards charge us an additional fee ranging from 2% to 3%. This is not subtracted from your giving but is billed to the church. If you are able, you may add a bit in the box titled "help offset the processing fees."

If you would like to know more about giving electronically, email or call Becky in the office and she will be glad to answer questions.

## **Christ Church - A Community of Prayer**

**Parish Prayer List:** Please pray for Liz Hall, Dan Stevens, Martha Tyler, Millie Foster, Carrie Stevens, Pat Larson, Pam Proctor, Carol Hedgpeth, Ashley, Shasta Beane, Patty Harvey, Dick Rines, Norma Layne, Matt Bear-Fowler, Charles Hicks, Jim Gill, Jeannie and Millie, Candy Avery, Pat Evers, Natalie Stillings.

**Church Family and Friends on the Long-Term Parish Prayer List:** Edie Weymouth, Jody & Ralph Clark, Marge Alexander, Joan Lane, Dorna Tracy, Jen Lagasse, Mary Fowler, Betty Walls, Vicky, Barbara Lamphire, Jeannie and David Douglass, Edna Brown, Jim and Anne Schmidt, Jack White, Christine Landes, Sarah, Jeff, Bob, George, Father Luckner, Lyndon Morgan, Dave Choate (friend of the Ellises), Kim Dunn (Rohnnie's daughter), Mary Vasquez, and Diana Lathrop..

**For Those Who Have Died:** *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

**For Those Who Mourn:** *Most merciful God, surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come.*

**The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for students and educators in the new school year and for all Christian Education and Sunday School programs.

## **Scripture Readings for This Sunday**

### **The Collect**

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The First Reading**

#### **Ezekiel 33:7-11**

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they

do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

### **The Response**

### **Psalm 119:33-40**

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, \*  
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; \*  
I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, \*  
for that is my desire.

36 Incline my heart to your decrees \*  
and not to unjust gain.

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; \*  
give me life in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, \*  
which you make to those who fear you.

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, \*  
because your judgments are good.

40 Behold, I long for your commandments; \*  
in your righteousness preserve my life.

### **The Epistle**

### **Romans 13:8-14**

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and

put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

## **The Gospel**

## **Matthew 18:15-20**

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

## **Contact Information**

**Rector:** Kerry R. Mansir: (207) 624-1841 or [kerry@christchurchgardiner.org](mailto:kerry@christchurchgardiner.org)

**Senior Warden:** Hank McIntyre (207) 240-3264

**Junior Warden:** Ward Boudreau (207) 592-2869

**Treasurer:** Nate Rudy

**Parish Administrator:** Becky Colwell [parish@christchurchgardiner.org](mailto:parish@christchurchgardiner.org)

**Parish Office:** (207) 582-3354

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