

# Christ Church

The Episcopal Church in Gardiner  
Parish News

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Sunday, September 27, 2020

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

### Weekly Parish Calendar

Sunday, September 27

- 8:00 AM - Outdoor Worship (Communion)
- **10:00 AM** - Outdoor Worship (Communion) and Streamed on Facebook Live **Notice the new time!!!**
- 5:00 to 5:30 PM - Community Supper To-Go at Christ Church hosted by First Baptist Church

Wednesday, September 27

- 11:00 AM: Study of 1 Kings and Noontime Prayer

## Christ Church Celebrates 200 Years



Join us on Sunday, October 18th for the  
Bicentennial Celebration!  
Outdoors at 2pm  
Registration Required to Attend

Register Here:

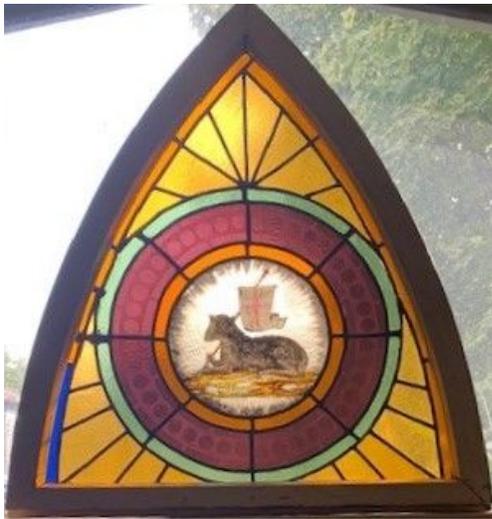
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805054EABA728A13-christ>

## Worship Time Change

In case you haven't noticed, we're still outdoors! Outdoor services are now at 8 and 10. 10:00 *might* be a little warmer, we hope, and the change will get us ready for moving indoors in late October when the second service will need to be at the traditional 10am time so that we can clean between services. The Facebook Live service will also move to 10am.

Bring your coat and blanket for the outdoor services and grab some hand warmers on your way in! And share the word about the time change with your friends!

## Did You Know? A Bit of History about Christ Church



Do you know the Story of the House of the Good Shepherd?

The House of the Good Shepherd was a home for young girls whose parents had died, were separated, or for some reason, had to find a foster home for their daughter. It was founded in Rockland in 1889, but because of financial difficulties it was relocated to Gardiner in 1900. It was incorporated under the statutes of the Maine with the Bishop of Maine as President ex-officio. Mr. R. H. Gardiner and the Reverend Robert W. Plant, Rector of Christ Church,

(1894-1924) were original incorporators. Over the years many members of Christ Church served as Trustees.

The House was originally located at 40 Lincoln Ave. Fifteen children were cared for, but applications from as many as fifty children had to be denied. A larger house was needed and Mrs. William F. Cochrane of Yonkers, New York bought the house at 67 Lincoln Ave. for the new home. After renovations, Sister Margaret Mary and her ward, Julie Raeuber came from New York to manage the house.

In 1925 Sister Margaret Mary wrote:

“Children of all creeds are admitted and they are kept until they finish HighSchool, if their parents wish, and if they are contented. This is a home – not a Home. The institution spirit is kept out as far as possible. There are no uniforms, no bells rung for rising or for meals, only the Chapel bell. All children attend public school.

While there is a Chapel in the house for daily prayers, the children attend Christ Church and Church school on Sunday and some sing in the choir. While the children are not allowed to run the streets or visit people, they may always bring their little friends home to play or to supper. There is a tennis court, swings, teeters and a nice playground. In the winter and until Lent begins, Miss Julie gives dancing lessons and then each girl can invite a little boy from school for the evening.”

The house was closed in 1954 because of a new policy of the State of Maine about boarding homeless children.

Miss Julie Raeuber died in 1957. Sister Margaret Mary died in 1968. They are buried side by side in Oak Grove Cemetery.

The house at 67 Lincoln Ave. is still there. The stained glass window was taken from the Chapel in the House of the Good Shepherd and is now a cherished possession of Christ Church.  
-Dorothy Washburne

### **Tell Your Christ Church Story**

We are looking for Christ Church members to share their experiences as part of the church for our Bicentennial celebration and for our Archives. It doesn't matter if you have been attending for 80 years or 8 months, if you have stories to share, let us know. Some of the things future generations might be interested in: How have you seen Christ Church change over the years? If you came as an adult, what drew you to the community? Are there special events, worship services, or ministries that stick out in your memory? Submissions can be written or recorded and would be greatly appreciated!

**Blessing of the Animals:** Join us as we celebrate St. Francis and bless the animals that are a blessing to our lives.

Sunday, October 4th at 10am during Outdoor Worship in the Churchyard

We also invite you to submit pictures of your pets for a Christ Church Pet Blessing slideshow. Email photos to [kerry@christchurchgardiner.org](mailto:kerry@christchurchgardiner.org) by October 1st.

### **Church Grounds Work Day:**

**Saturday, October 3rd from 9am to 12pm** Mark your calendars for this opportunity to spiff up the churchyard and gardens in preparation for our Bicentennial Celebration! Bring rakes, gloves, pruners and other gardening tools, if you have them. Bring a mask

for times when you can't be physically distant from others. Cushnoc pizza is being donated to reward us for our work!!

Rain Date: Sunday, Oct. 4 at 11am

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

While we have been worshiping 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!

## **New Member Sunday**

On Sunday October 11, at the 10am service outdoors, we'll welcome new members to the Christ Church community. If you have been attending Christ Church, either virtually or in-person, and would like to talk to Kerry about what it means to be a member of the community, please call or email.

207-624-1841 or [kerry@christchurchgardiner.org](mailto:kerry@christchurchgardiner.org)

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

On the Wednesdays leading up to Advent, we'll gather through Zoom at 11am for a discussion of First and Second Kings and Noontime Prayer.

Upcoming Assignments (Psst...you don't have to read ahead to participate!)

9/30: 1Kings 12-16 (History of the 2 Kingdoms)

10/07: 1Kings 17-19 (Elijah)

10/14: 1Kings 20-22 (Ahab)

Same link each week!

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 872 9557 0348

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,87295570348# US (New York)

## **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.



**Bridging the Gap**

# E-WASTE Collection Event

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th**  
**Augusta Civic Center**  
 (North Wing Parking Lot)

**9<sub>am</sub> - 1<sub>pm</sub>**

**It's easy!**  
 You make a **cash donation** to support  
*The Augusta Community Warming Center*  
 ...and we take care of your electronic waste.

Drive up, make a cash contribution to **support your community** and let us help you unload your vehicle.

**Electronics End** will take care of your old, unwanted electronics in a responsible way.

Know that your cash contribution will help Bridging the Gap operate the **Augusta Community Warming Center**.

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:**

- Cellphones
- Laptops
- Computer Towers
- Computer Printers
- TVs (flat screen and old tube style)
- Monitors (flat screen and old tube style)

PLEASE WEAR A MASK.  
WE'LL WEAR OURS.

QUESTIONS? CALL 248-1782

**Electronics End**  
Your E-Waste Solution

Bridging the Gap is a program of Emmanuel Lutheran Episcopal Church and is a partner program of the United Way of Kennebec Valley

**United Way**  
United Way of Kennebec Valley

## Note about Online Worship and Cancellations

Online worship on Facebook Live is moving to 10am as we prepare to go back to indoor worship in late October. 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/>

Bulletins are emailed out on Saturdays and available on our website under the Worship tab. If you are worshipping with us online, here's a tip about sound, using earbuds or headphones can really increase the volume!

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 10am on Facebook Live.

## **Local Episcopal Churches Collaborating to Start a *Sacred Ground* Group--Register Now!**

*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. (from The Episcopal Church website)

Our local *Sacred Ground* group will begin on Tuesday, October 27 and occur every three weeks (with a break for Christmas) until its completion. While the curriculum is deep and rewarding, it will require a commitment from participants to prepare for the meetings by reading the material and viewing the films that are provided.

If you are interested in registering for *Sacred Ground*, please email [kerry@christchurchgardiner.org](mailto:kerry@christchurchgardiner.org) In the email, please indicate whether you prefer Tuesday meetings to be from 10am to 12pm or 6pm to 8pm.

Click here for an introduction to *Sacred Ground* by Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry.  
<https://episcopalchurch.org/library/video/introducing-sacred-ground>

## **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, Natalie Stillings, Jane Robertson.

**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 the Trustees, Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and other decision-making bodies of the Diocese of Maine.

### **Prayer for people and all creation impacted by wildfires in the West**

(Adapted from a United Church of Canada prayer for wildfires in British Columbia)

God of Creation,

We live in a world where both beauty and danger surround us.

Receive our prayers for those impacted by, and living in fear of, the wildfires across the western United States;

for all who cannot find adequate food, safety, or shelter...

for all who have lost their homes, churches, community centres, and workplaces...

for all your glorious natural Creation that has been destroyed and is in harm's way.

We pray and ask that you help heal the pain of all affected.

Strengthen with your presence all who are numb with fear and distress.

Guide those who anxiously search or wait for loved ones.

Be near those who are grieving, and bless them with your peace.

In the midst of disaster we give thanks for moments of generosity and human-kindness.

Grant tenderness, strength, and wisdom...

to doctors and nurses, police and military, fire-fighters and emergency responders;

to the wildlife conservationists and stewards of the earth;

to all who minister to human need in our time of distress.

We gather these prayers with the assurance that you already know our needs,

And are always with us. Amen.

## Scripture Readings for This Sunday

### The Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The First Reading

#### Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

### The Response

#### Psalm 25:1-8

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

## **The Epistle**

## **Philippians 2:1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

## **The Gospel**

## **Matthew 21:23-32**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

## **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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