

# Christ Church

The Episcopal Church in Gardiner  
Parish News

---

**Sunday, October 4, 2020**

## **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **Weekly Parish Calendar**

Saturday, October 3

9:00 to 12:00 PM - Outdoor Work Day in the churchyard

Sunday, October 4

- 8:00 AM - Outdoor Worship (Morning Prayer)
- 10:00 AM - Outdoor Worship (MP) and Blessing of the Animals  
Streamed on Facebook Live
- 5:00 to 5:30 PM - Community Supper To-Go at Christ Church  
hosted by Highland Avenue United Methodist Church

Tuesday, October 6--new day!

- 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>

## **A Note about Worship Times**

Outdoor services will be at 8 AM and 10 AM for the next two Sundays, October 4 and 11. On October 18, there will be NO morning services, ONLY the 2 PM Bicentennial Celebration in the churchyard. The plan is to begin gathering indoors on October 25. We are working on doing this safely, and registration for services will be required. Look for more information here.

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

The first Bishop of Maine, George Burgess, was born in Providence, Rhode Island on Oct. 31, 1809. Growing up he was a diligent reader, particularly fond of history and poetry. In 1822 he entered Brown University, being not quite 13 years old and graduated with high honors in 1826 at age 17. He studied law at his father's office but decided to promote his life to Christian Ministry. He went abroad to complete his preparation for sacred work and studied at Berlin, Bonn, and Gottingen for three years.

On June 10, 1834 he received Deacon's Orders at Grace Church in Providence, R.I. from Bishop Griswold. He was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Brownell in Hartford, Ct., on Nov. 2 1834 and became Rector of Christ Church, Hartford. In 1846 he received a Doctor of Divinity degree from Union College in Schenectady and the same order was conferred on him by Brown University. In October of that year he married Sophia Kip.

In 1847, letters came to him from the clergy of Maine asking whether he would accept the Episcopate of that Diocese. A special convention of the Diocese of Maine met at St. Stephen's Church in Portland on Oct. 4, 1847, and Dr. Burgess was unanimously elected Bishop. On Oct. 31 he was ordained and consecrated in Christ Church, Hartford, by Bishop Chase, the Presiding Bishop.

In 1847, Gardiner was a thriving mill town with a population of around 6000, a prosperous downtown, and many fine homes. When Bishop Burgess and his wife arrived at Steamboat Wharf on November 6, they were met by R. H. Gardiner and taken to the Oaklands. On Sunday November 7, he preached his first sermon at Christ Church. His great delight became this Parish which prospered more and more under his care. He also ministered to sick and dying people who were not from the Parish. His kindness and compassion for all led to him being called the "saintly bishop." In the Diocese, he won the respect and affection of most of the Parishes.

In December of 1865, the Committee for Foreign Ministries proposed that Bishop Burgess visit Haiti. He accepted, in part, because of his poor health and the recommendation to spend the winters in a warmer climate. Burgess and his wife sailed for Havana, then spent several months visiting the islands of the West Indies and arrived at Port au Prince on March 16. They spent five weeks there, and during that time the Bishop took part in Sunday services, held two confirmations, ordained two native ministers and baptized several children. On April 23, 1866 at 11 AM, he passed away on the voyage home.

The Kennebec Reporter on May 25, 1866 wrote "The body of Bishop Burgess arrived in Gardiner on Monday and was accompanied from the depot to Christ Church

by a large number of citizens. The flags of the city were placed at half-mast and the bell in Christ Church tolled during the passage of the sad procession through our streets.”

His funeral took place on Wednesday, May 30th at Christ Church and he was buried in Christ Church cemetery in a location he had selected. A large cross which was sculpted by J. M. Moffitt marks his grave and is engraved “Erected by the Diocese of Maine, In Grateful Remembrance of a Faithful and Beloved Bishop.” His wife Sophia Kip Burgess and daughter Mary Georgiana are buried beside him.

The Burgess’ home was on Church Hill, across from Pleasant St. It was taken down sometime in the 1970’s to enlarge the First Baptist Church parking lot.

Christ Church is fortunate to have in our possession Bishop Burgess’ writing desk which is kept in the Robing Room. By: 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 2nd.

## **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!!

## **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)

### **New Day! Tuesdays at 11am: Morning Prayer and Study of Kings**

On the Tuesdays 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!)

10/06: 1Kings 17-19 (Elijah)

10/13: 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.

### **Note about Online Worship and Cancellations**

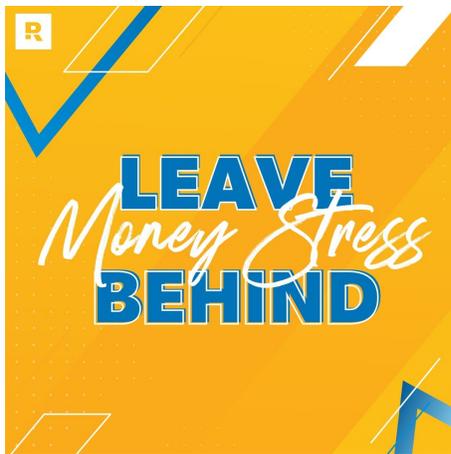
Online worship on Facebook Live is moving to 10am as we prepare to go back to indoor worship in late October. Remember, you DO NOT need a Facebook account to access these live services. Here is the link:

<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.

## Financial Peace Class Offered Online

Leave money stress behind. It's possible when you know how to handle your finances. Join our Financial Peace class which, through a supportive community, provides hope for your future. The teachings are based on Biblical financial principles. If you've ever been stressed about money or just want to tweak what you are doing this class is for you. It's open to anyone in the country at any stage of life or any place in a financial journey.



Come learn how to make a plan for your money with a community to support you. Learn how to dream and make a plan to reach your dreams. Learn how to communicate about money better. Learn about insurance, real estate, retirement planning, investing, paying for college and much more! The goal is to have peace about your finances and become outrageously generous! You do not need to disclose any private information during the class. Students, singles, couples, retirees, anyone is welcome to join.

You don't even need to leave home and can try it out for free for 14 days! This is a 9 week, one-hour class, that will be held virtually via Zoom beginning on Wednesday October 14 at 8 pm ET. Anyone in the country can attend so please spread the word to anyone who might be interested. The class will be facilitated by Cheryl and Ken Freye. Contact them at [cwfreye@gmail.com](mailto:cwfreye@gmail.com) or 207-592-8099 for more information or for scholarships. You can sign up for Ramsey Plus, which includes the class, at this link: [fpu.com/1126576](https://fpu.com/1126576)

## 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 congregation of St. Paul's, Brunswick; for the Maine Council of Churches and all of our ecumenical and interfaith partners this World Communion Sunday; and for fulfilling the basic right of all people to adequate shelter as we approach the United Nations' World Habitat Day.

## **Scripture Readings for The Feast of St. Francis**

### **The Collect**

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; 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**

#### **Jeremiah 22:13-16**

Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness,  
and his upper rooms by injustice;  
who makes his neighbours work for nothing,  
and does not give them their wages;  
who says, "I will build myself a spacious house  
with large upper rooms",  
and who cuts out windows for it,  
panelling it with cedar,  
and painting it with vermilion.  
Are you a king  
because you compete in cedar?  
Did not your father eat and drink  
and do justice and righteousness?  
Then it was well with him.  
He judged the cause of the poor and needy;  
then it was well.  
Is not this to know me?  
says the Lord.

## **The Response**

## **Psalm 148:7-14**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;  
8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;  
9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;  
10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;  
11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;  
12 Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.  
13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.  
14 He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Hallelujah!

## **The Epistle**

## **Galatians 6:14-18**

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule-- peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

## **The Gospel**

## **Matthew 11:25-30**

Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to

infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

### **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

**Like us on Facebook! And check out our website at [www.christchurchgardiner.org](http://www.christchurchgardiner.org)**