

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
A living Faith Community since 1876



*“Where All are Welcomed and  
Fed at the Table.”*

# Christ Church Chronicle

NOVEMBER 2023

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. – Colossians 2:6-7

On All Saints Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, we will collect the United Thank Offering at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Please bring your UTO boxes and envelopes to the liturgy.

Please join me in thanking Gail Thurnau for serving as our UTO coordinator.  
- Fr. Henry Doyle

## It's Greek to Me – *“Give thanks in all Circumstances”*



All Saints - November 1

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. – I Thessalonians 5:16-18*

I believe we often treat the Bible as if it were a Hallmark greeting card, a book of lofty but impractical sentiments, or self-help advice - a book only for good days or very, very bad days! It is actually none of those things.

It is a book of very practical, albeit sometimes difficult, direction on how to progress in the spiritual life, which leads to peace and joy. The Bible never addresses

itself directly to fixing our emotions. It speaks directly to our will and our choices, which, if brought into alignment with God, will heal our emotions. When the Bible speaks of joy or thankfulness, it is speaking of a state of mind engendered by a choice of the will – only secondarily does it mean an emotional state or mood. Moods and emotions are the result of our choices and actions, not the cause. When moods and emotional responses become habits, then they become the cause of further wrong choices and actions. Once we understand that, we will better grasp just how practical the advice in the Bible really is.

The above passage from First Thessalonians seems to be talking about nothing but emotions! But a closer look reveals a set of choices and practices that we must undertake with God's grace, in order to experience the feelings that go with those choices.

The word 'rejoice' is 'chairō'. It was sometimes used as a greeting or a farewell. One of its' meanings is to be 'calmly happy'. When we hear the word in English, we perhaps envision someone highly excited or on an emotional high. The real meaning of the word is a state of deep, peaceful well-being – not an unsustainable 'high' emotion.

"Pray continually" is the act we must perform in order to experience that state of well-being. The word 'continually' is 'adialeiptos' which literally means 'without ceasing or omission'. Again, we have a state of mind that is consciously seeking to foster an unbroken awareness of God's Presence at all times. This takes practice and there are many methods for learning how to do this!

Finally, 'give thanks' is 'eucharisteo'. You may recognize the word as the same word we

use to describe the service of Holy Communion. A better rendering of the word is 'receive everything with thanks'.

These are spiritual practices that require conscious and continuous attempts until we find our negative emotions, our fears, our anxieties beginning to be transformed into joy, peace, confidence, thankfulness. We must practice *choosing* before we experience *feeling*. When we do this, we will gradually come into alignment with the Presence of God in all circumstances, good or bad, and discover that even negative circumstances can, at minimum, be weathered, and at best, be overcome, with divine joy. – *The Rev. George Favell*

## Episcopal Liturgy

What do you know about Episcopal liturgy? The Rev. Anna Ostenso Moore is a member of the Racial Justice and Healing Commission for our Diocese and she made the following statement at a meeting of that commission.

"I found the Episcopal church as a teenager, after leaving a tradition that did not affirm or celebrate women in leadership or LGBTQ people. From that point on I slowly fell in love with our liturgical tradition: the rhythm; the foundation that we do not all need to believe the same things, but we need to pray together; and how if we are open to the Holy Spirit, God can shape our lives through worship."

"Liturgy is essential to who we are as Episcopalians - shaping who we are as followers of Jesus and essential to racial justice and healing work. In both liturgy and racial justice and healing work we gather in the Lord's name. We proclaim and respond to the word of God. We confess and pray. We exchange the Peace. We prepare the table, make Eucharist, bread bread, and share the gifts of God. Like all of our faith journeys as followers of Jesus, we do these Holy actions again and again because we never arrive. Instead, we return to worship over and over again to be near God and be formed to continue imperfectly to do this good, hard work."

- *Gail Thurnau*



Saint Andrew the Apostle,  
November 30



In 2022, the focus for UTO grants (what happens with our UTO blue box money on a worldwide level) was on care of creation, and the Diocese of Buye in Burundi was awarded a grant to create erosion control through tree planting and contour lines in Mwumba County.


The project has impacted over 3,000 people who served as laborers. They worked in the following areas: land clearing, making pots, filling pots with soil, preparing germination, nursery beds, watering trees in nursery beds, transportation of seedlings to the identified sites, and tree planting.

What an amazing project! Our fall UTO Ingathering will be Sunday November 5 - *bring in those blue boxes!*


Another gift of the United Thank Offering is the attached November Gratitude journey with UTO. Each day you'll see a question to help you spend a moment giving thanks for something in your life. Enjoy!! - *Gail Thurnau*

**NOVEMBER 2023**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Welcome to the November Gratitude Journey with UTO. Each day, you'll see a question to help you spend a moment giving thanks for something in your life. You can journal your answer, take a photo and share with us on social media, or discuss over dinner with friends/family.			1 This week, we're giving thanks for nature. Give thanks for your favorite spot in nature.	2 Give thanks today for your favorite fall fruit and/or vegetable.	3 Give thanks today for your favorite fall outdoor experience.	4 Today we invite you to rest & reconnect with nature by doing something kind for the earth.
5 This week, we're giving thanks for ourselves. Give thanks for the amazing person you are.	6 Give thanks today for at least one way you are creative.	7 Give thanks today for a physical activity you enjoy doing.	8 Give thanks today for something you learned recently.	9 Give thanks today for something you are proud of.	10 Give thanks today for your personality.	11 Today we invite you to rest & reconnect by doing something kind for yourself.
12 This week, we're giving thanks for community. Give thanks for the best thing in your town.	13 Give thanks today for your favorite outdoor spot in your town.	14 Give thanks today for your favorite non-profit.	15 Give thanks today for a favorite spot only the locals know.	16 Give thanks today for your favorite town tradition/event.	17 Give thanks today for your favorite place to go for fun in your town.	18 Today we invite you to rest & reconnect by doing something kind for your community.
19 This week, we're giving thanks for others. Give thanks for those who matter the most to you.	20 Give thanks today for your neighbors and neighborhood.	21 Give thanks today for your community leaders.	22 Give thanks today for your family/friends.	23 Give thanks today for those you are gathered with.	24 Give thanks today for those who work while others rest on days off.	25 Today we invite you to rest & reconnect by doing something kind for others.
26 This week, we're giving thanks for home. Give thanks for your favorite thing about home.	27 Give thanks today for something you fixed or created at home.	28 Give thanks today for your favorite outdoor spot at home.	29 Give thanks today for the most comfortable spot to relax.	30 Give thanks today for your favorite way to celebrate the holidays.	<p style="text-align: center;">What's next? We hope you'll consider adding gratitude practices to your daily routine. UTO offers more gratitude resources at <a href="http://www.unitedthankoffering.com">www.unitedthankoffering.com</a></p>	



To support the work of UTO, please consider making a thank offering using this QR code.



## 2023 Thanksgiving Eve Service



Thanksgiving Day – November 23

At 5:30 on Wednesday evening, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ascension Lutheran Church, the United Methodist Church, Salem Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church, and Christ Episcopal Church will gather for the Thanksgiving Eve service at the Presbyterian Church. The host pastor, Charles Teixeira, will preach. Those attending the service may bring non-perishable items for the Ecumenical Food Pantry. We will divide the monetary offering between the Salvation Army Food Bank and the Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Please come to the service and join our beloved friends in Christ in praising and thanking our gracious, merciful, generous, and loving God.

## Sunday Worship Schedule for November 2023

Sunday, November 5, 2023 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist – 10:30am

Sunday, November 12, 2023 – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist – 10:30am

Sunday, November 19, 2023 – 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Morning Prayer – 10:30am

Sunday, November 26, 2023 – Christ the King Sunday, Last Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist – 10:30am

*“Reflect upon your present blessings—of which every man has many—  
not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.”*

—Charles Dickens

*“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy,  
and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.”*

—William Arthur Ward

The American Legion Post 56 in Albert Lea is hosting a Fund-raiser Breakfast every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, from 8am to 12:30 pm!

### New Revised Common Lectionary Sunday Readings

5-Nov	Joshua 3:7-17	Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
12-Nov	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	Psalm 78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
19-Nov	Judges 4:1-7	Psalm 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
26-Nov	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46

### Community Communication

#### Father Doyle

Home - 507-334-3742

Cell - 507-491-2695

Office - 507-333-1651

Email: [henry.doyle@s-sm.org](mailto:henry.doyle@s-sm.org)

Mailing Address: 500 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW, #301, Faribault, MN 55021

#### Parish Office

The Parish Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Office Phone: 507-373-3188

Office email: [cecalmn@gmail.com](mailto:cecalmn@gmail.com)

Website: [christchurchal.org](http://christchurchal.org)

**Priest-in-Charge:** The Rev. Henry Doyle

**Senior Warden:** Savile Lord

**Vestry:** Kenneth Johnson

Jeff Shaft

**Music Director:** Gail Thurnau

**Treasurer:** Joy Shaft

**Parish Administrator/Secretary:**

The Rev. George M. Favell

### Fr. Henry - Please keep me in the loop

Far too often, you might hesitate to inform me of your desire/need for pastoral care, because you do not want to bother me. On the contrary, you are not bothering me when you inform me of a major illness, yours or a loved one's illness. Because of privacy issues and regulations, staff at hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities will not contact me. You, a family member, or a close friend must contact me, if you have a pastoral need.

### Prayer Scripture

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you<sup>ld</sup> alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. - Colossians 2:13-14

## Meditation Prayer

*Book of Common Prayer, page 840*

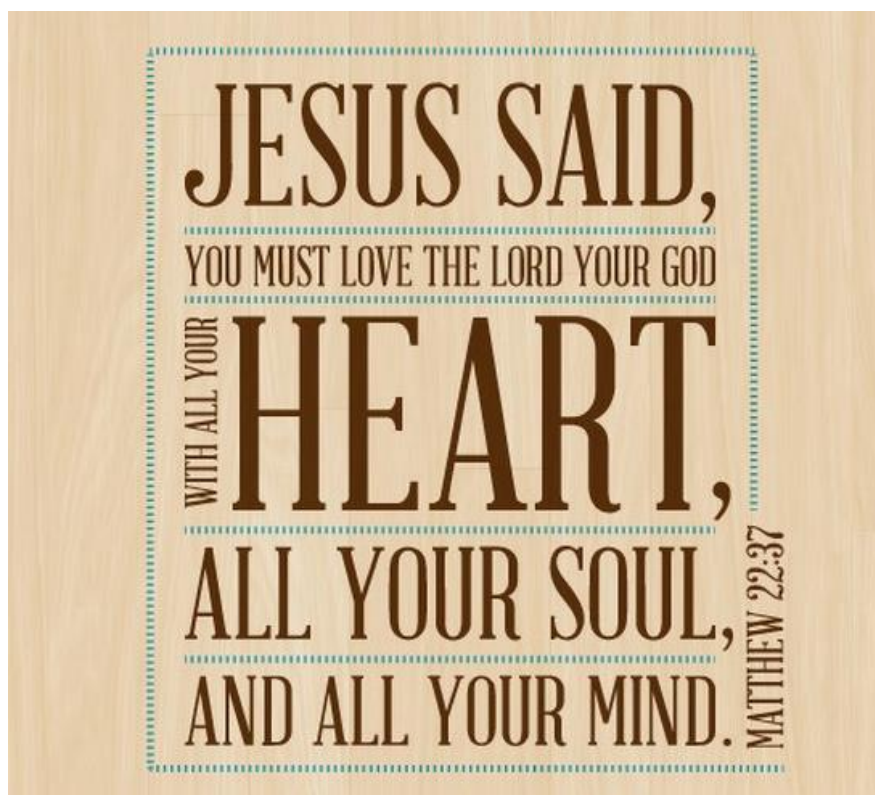
Most gracious God, by whose knowledge the depths are broken up and the clouds drop down the dew: We yield thee hearty thanks and praise for the return of seed time and harvest, for the increase of the ground and the gathering in of its fruits, and for all other blessings of thy merciful providence bestowed upon this nation and people. And, we beseech thee, give us a just sense of these great mercies, such as may appear in our lives by a humble, holy, and obedient walking before thee all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost be all glory and honor, world without end. *Amen.*

## Christ Episcopal Church November Birthdays

3 - Kennedy Josette Bryant

13 - Kenneth Johnson

16 - Daniel Montenegro



## November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>ALL SAINTS</b> Chair Yoga – 9am**	2	3	4 Retreat – 9am – 12:30pm**
5 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (All Saints Sunday) – Holy Eucharist – 10:30am <b>UTO IN- GATHERING</b>	6 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	7 Office 8-12	8 Chair Yoga – 9am**	9 Office Closed	10	11 Healing – 9:30am**
12 24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Eucharist – 10:30am	13 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	14 Office 8-12	15 Chair Yoga – 9am**	16 Office Closed	17	18 Healing – 9:30am**
19 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Morning Prayer – 10:30am	20 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	21 Office 8-12	22 Chair Yoga – 9am**	23 <b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b> Office Closed	24	25 Healing – 9:30am**
26 The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King) – Holy Eucharist – 10:30am	27 Yoga – 10am and 6pm**	28 Office 8-12	29 Chair Yoga – 9am**	30 <b>SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE</b> Office 8-12		

**\*\*** Please check with Clemencia to confirm location and if class is full.

[bebegu@live.com](mailto:bebegu@live.com) or 507-377-2718.