



News from Christ Church

August 4, 2021

Dear all,

Monday's Celebration of New Ministry was not a first for Christ Church, but it was a first for me. I was overwhelmed by the amount of work and preparation done by so many people to make that night possible. It was flawless and holy and unforgettable.

Funnily enough, the new rector has almost no audible part to play in the service. There's one prayer on page 562 of the Book of Common Prayer which is optional for the minister to say, and here's the text in its entirety:

O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you have called your servant to stand in your house, and to serve at your altar. To you and to your service I devote myself, body, soul, and spirit. Fill my memory with the record of your mighty works; enlighten my understanding with the light of your Holy Spirit; and may all the desires of my heart and will center in what you would have me do. Make me an instrument of your salvation for the people entrusted to my care, and grant that I may faithfully administer your holy Sacraments, and by my life and teaching set forth your true and living Word. Be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; and grant that, by the clearness and brightness of your holy Word, all the world may be drawn into your blessed kingdom. All this I ask for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Some visiting clergy mentioned that many times, new ministers opt out of this prayer. They say some ministers don't like the "I am not worthy" intro or the "I" focus of the prayer (when we are typically a people who pray in terms of "we.")

In terms of worthiness to come under the roof of God's house, I have no question that I am not. I'm not unique in that. All of us find our worth in the love of Christ, which transforms us into beings capable of love ourselves. We see this truth in human lives: children are made loveable by first being loved -- not for anything they've done, but because a parent simply does love them. Here at Christ Church, your love for me makes me a better priest and person, and the cycle continues. It starts with the gift given.

But as for the "I-focused" aspect of the prayer: for that, you'll just have to

forgive me. Prayers are sometimes a bit selfish, if we're honest. But I hope that as I pray this prayer for myself during my tenure as your rector, that you'll find the things I'm praying for answered in you, too: enlightened understanding, quickened spirits, a salvation drawing ever-nearer in our lives together. If that happens, it will be because your love was the shelter out of which all this could grow. I'm more humbled than I can say at being welcomed under such a roof.

faithfully,
Amber

2021 Diocesan Summer Youth Conference

"That's What He Said!"

In person, Sunday-Saturday, August 15-21
Incarnation Center, Ivoryton, Connecticut
Scholarship funding available from Christ Church.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Wednesdays from 7-7:30 pm

Please join us this evening

[Click here for link](#)

If you are interested in leading the service, or reading the lessons, please email Charlotte Trott at ctrott50@gmail.com

Saturday Breakfast

Christ Church continues to serve breakfast to anyone who wants or needs it every Saturday from 9:00 to 10:30. If you are interested in learning more about the breakfast, or helping to prepare or serve, call or email Liz Houlton: 845-325-1276 or eahoulton@gmail.com



Christ Church THRIFT SHOP

open Saturdays
9:30am to noon for
shopping & donations



Feed your family and support your church

You can purchase ShopRite or Price Chopper gift cards every Sunday immediately following worship, or stop by the parish office during business hours Monday through Friday. At no cost to you, Christ Church earns a percentage that goes to supporting church programs.

Vestry: Matthew Mumford, Senior Warden - Bill O'Keefe, Junior Warden

Elena Chavez Carey, Billie Gallo, Linda Garcia, Judy Girod, Sharon Kelly, Steve Laico, Chris Loftus, Louise Schultz
(Treasurer), Charlotte Trott, Diana Van Fossen

[Website](#)

[About](#)

[Worship
Schedule](#)

Sundays at Christ Church

9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, in-person and
livestreamed to Vimeo and the Parish Hall

10:00 a.m. - Coffee hour in the Parish Hall
and on the lawn

11:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, in-person

5:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist on the lawn

Find us on social media:

