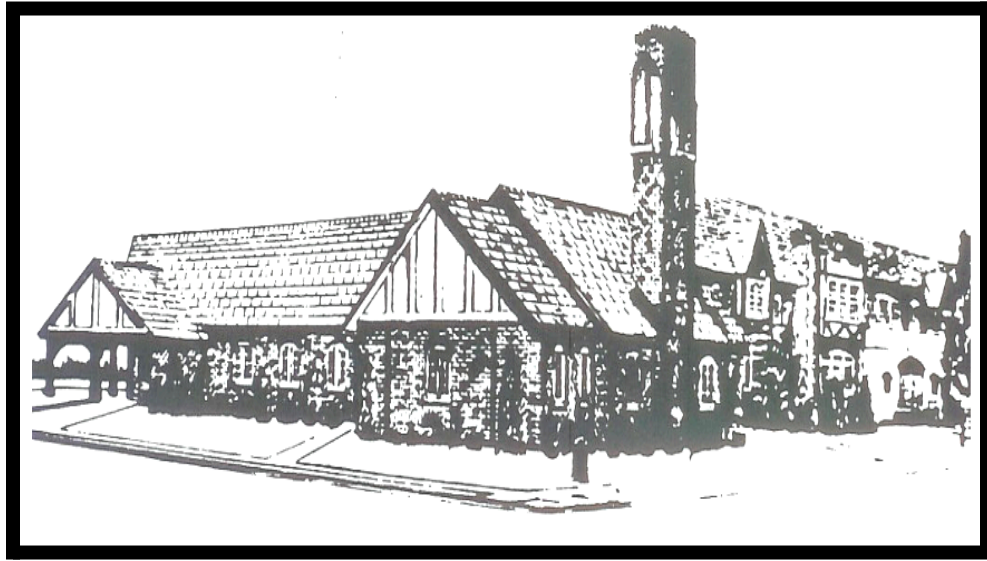


December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent



Christ Episcopal Church, 157 Shore Road, Somers Point, NJ 08244

Phone: 609-927-6262

Email:
Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com

Web site:
christchurchspnj.org

Office Hours:
Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm

All Services Facebook
Live-Stream
<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchsomerspoint/>

Healing Service:

Wednesdays at 10am in
the chapel
Holy Days as announced

Saturdays at 5:30pm

Service: Holy Eucharist
Reader: Donna Melle
Eucharistic Minister:
Donna Melle

December 11 at 7:00 pm

Celebration of New
Ministry

December 24 at 4:00 pm
December 25 at 10:00 am

Sundays at 10:00am

Service: Holy Eucharist
Reader: Barbara Keowen
Eucharistic Ministers:
John and Nancy Austin
Acolytes: Matt, Joanna
and Abby
Ushers: Arthur Donchey
Counters: Joe Zigenfus and
Michelle Cianci

All Music in this bulletin:
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Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church of Somer's Point. We are glad to welcome you to our church. Everything you will need for worship can be found in the Red Book of Common Prayer and the Blue Hymnal. If you are new to the Episcopal Church and having a hard time following along, ask someone near you for help. They will be glad to show you where we are in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) or the 1982 Blue Hymnal. Again, welcome.

Entrance: Hymnal 1982 No. 76 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Book of Common Prayer page 355

Kyrie 1982 Hymnal S-87 (S music is found in the front of the hymnal. S=Service music)

The Collect of the Day

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the book of Isaiah

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the
ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire
of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Deus, iudicium

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

**2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;**

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

**4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

**6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.**

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!**

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

A Reading from the Book of Romans

Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual 1982 Hymnal No. 75 There's a voice in the wilderness crying

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Nicene Creed Book of Common Prayer pg. 358

Prayers of the People Form VI Book of Common Prayer pg. 392

Confession Book of Common Prayer pg. 393

The Peace

Announcements

Offertory

Eucharistic Prayer D Book of Common Prayer pg 372

Sanctus 1982 Hymnal S-127

Prayers continue on Book of Common Prayer pg 373

Lord's Prayer Book of Common Prayer pg. 364

The Fraction Anthem 1982 Hymnal S 155

Agnus Dei S 165

The Gifts of God for the People of God

Communion Hymn 1982 Hymnal No. 343 Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

Post Communion Prayer Book of Common Prayer pg 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn 1982 Hymnal No. 59 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Dismissal Book of Common Prayer pg 366



**Flowers in the sanctuary are given for the glory of God in loving memory of
Richard J. Zipf by Ed Zipf**

Last week's Sunday attendance:
Saturday 5:30 pm: 13 Sunday 10:00 am: 52
form our hearts and make them thine.



Stewardship Note: Regarding our Annual Budget it costs the church \$3,500.00 per week to operate and sustain our ministries, outreach and music ministry. Sunday's collection is \$2707.43.

Memorials & Thanksgivings: Altar Flowers for Sunday - \$50-Bulletin memorial- \$50; Altar candles- \$15- Mass cards- \$15- contact parish secretary for available dates

**Help the church save in printing costs and use our app! Christ Church, Somers Point app
<https://egiving.ministryone.com/landing/294y>**

- **Choir- meets Sundays at 9am in the choir room (parish house)**
- **Altar Guild- weekly preparations for Services**
- **Brotherhood of Saint Andrew-meets third Thurs. of the Month (except August) 6pm in the parish living room (parish house)**
- **Adelaide's Place- is a ministry of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary**
- **Knit Wits- Working on projects from home**
- **BSA Troop 55- Wednesdays at 6pm in the Scout Room or Parish Hall**
Cub Scouts, Pack 87- Mondays, 7-8pm, Church undercroft
- **Both BSA Troop 55 and Cub Scout Pack 87 are Sponsored by our parish**
- **Ecumenical Food Pantry- our parish staffs the pantry Thursdays (except 1st full week of month closed) from 9am to 11:30am at 11 E/ Dawes Ave., Somers Point.**
- **Sunday School Sundays, begins Sept. 8, 9am -9:45am (see registration form in narthex or church website) in the church class rooms, undercroft**
- **Youth Forum, 9am-9:45am (in the undercroft)**

If you have questions or need further information about ministries or participation please contact our Secretary, who will be happy to help you at 609-927-6262 or Christchurchsp1971@gmail.com.

Church Information

Capital Campaign- To help us pay off this loan, we are doing two things:

- 1) We are holding a 3-year capital campaign to raise the money for this loan. If you need pledging information please check with a vestry member or call the church office.
- 2) We will be holding 3-4 fundraisers a year to help us with the cost of the loan. This includes our organ concert and other future fundraisers.

Memorial Garden Bricks- Bricks are a great way of preserving the memory of a loved one. They are also a great way to honor an achievement that a loved one has accomplished. Bricks are \$100 dollars to order and need to be sent in batches of 10 bricks at a time. These bricks were installed early last year. Forms to order bricks are on a table in the narthex. If you would like more information, please see Carolyn La Mountain.

Flower Donations- Donating funds for the altar flowers is a way to share your dedication of thanksgiving or to remember a loved one. These dedications are printed in the church bulletin. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. There are still many Sundays available to provide donations.

Prayer List- The prayer list was reset on July 6, 2025. Please email the office at ChristChurchsp1971@gmail.com with your prayer requests. Each individual will stay on the prayer list for 30 days, unless you specifically request longer. The prayer list will continue to be important to our community.

Poinsettias: Please consider an offering of Flowers for Christmas! See Insert Letter.

The Rev. George Anne McDonnell

Pat Conte (2027)

Karen Geller (2027) and Nancy Austin (2027) Co-Wardens

Carol Drumm, Parish Administrative Asst.

Heidi Toth, Treasurer

Michelle Cianci, Treasurer

Carlos Torres, Sexton

Doug Murdock, Director of Music

Vestry:

Joe Zeigenfus (2028),

Steve Napoli (2026), Bobbie Livesey (2026)

Marie Bates (2028)

Head of Altar Guild: Barbara Keown

Christian Education

Sunday School

Led By: Kirsten McMahon & Laura Napoli

Youth Forum

Led By: The Rev. George Anne McDonnell

Sundays

9:00am to 9:45am

Additional Events and ministry activities will be posted on our Website and Facebook Page

Our Church app: Ministry ONE

<https://egiving.ministryone.com/landing/294y>