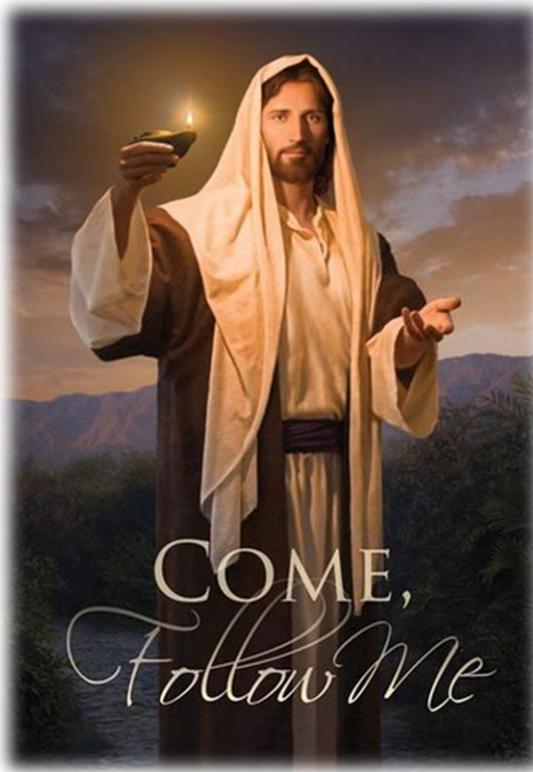


christ church

an Open & Affirming Congregation
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



January 25, 2026
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Gross

Music Director: Terryl Dietert

Guitar/Visuals: Paul Mayeshiba

Video: Richard Tremarello

Liturgist: Julie Oren

Welcome to Christ Church! We are so glad you are here this morning! Whether you are a "first-timer," a regular, or somewhere in between, it is a joy to have you here with us this day. May you be blessed by God's Word in worship today! If you are a **first-time visitor**, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the offering plate, and then make your way to the Chapel (in the back) after worship where we have a small gift for you.

**Please stand as you are able*

For your Reflection

"The place God calls you is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." ~Frederick Buechner

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude *Holy Is the Lord - Schubert/Wagner* Bell Choir

Call to Worship Psalm 27:1

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
Many: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One: Come, let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn *Shine, Jesus, Shine* Hymn #319

*Opening Prayer

God, our light and our salvation, Jesus announced the nearness of your kingdom and called his disciples to be fishers of people. Give us courage to follow the way of Jesus, that our lives may bear witness to the good news of the kingdom at hand and our vocation serve to draw people to your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Response *Glory to God* Hymn #240

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

A Message for The Young and The Young at Heart

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4 (NRSVUE)

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 4: 12-23 (NRSVUE)

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Sermon

“Claim Your Vocation”

Pastor Bob

*Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

Hymn #559

*Statement of Faith

by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

God, you have called us out of our ordinary lives, lives shaped by the expectations of the world, into a new life, a life shaped by your grace, and accompanied by your presence. We rise from our lives, the lives we determine, and enter into the life you offer us. Give us the love to follow and bear witness, the grace to heal and bless, and the courage to join your work of justice and mercy. God, anointed by your grace, called and led by your Beloved Christ, and empowered by your Spirit, we rise. We give ourselves. We follow. Amen.

Prayers of the People

(see Weekly Newsletter for details)

For those experiencing trials or ongoing health concerns: *Nancy S, Kathy B, Gloria H, Judy B, Jerry G, Bonnie & Jeff J, Nicole, Tom, Laurel, Bill, Blair, Joe, Kozy, Stacy, Susie*

Pastoral Prayer

One: God of light,

Many: hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

God, the source of all good things, has given us what we need. In joyful response, let us offer our gifts, the fruit of our labors, and the dedication of our hearts for loving service in the name of Christ.

SCAN TO DONATE



Offertory

Step by Step - Beaker

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

God of our salvation, receive these gifts we offer and bless them for the work of your kingdom, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

*Closing Hymn

Lesbia Scott, 1929; alt.

Unison



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, faith-ful their whole lives
2 They loved their God and they lived that love. It was lov - ing that made them
3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, there are hun-dreds of thou - sands



through, who brave - ly la - bored, lived, and died for the God they
strong. They did what was right, for Je - sus' sake, lived just - ly their
still. The world is filled with liv - ing saints who choose to



loved and knew. And one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and an -
whole lives long. And one was a proph - et, and one was a priest, and an -
do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a



oth - er a shep-herd in pas - tures green: they were saints of God, if you
oth - er was slain by a fierce wild beast: there is no earth-ly rea - son,
church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like



know what I mean. God, help me to be one, too.
none in the least, why I should-n't be one, too.
you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

*Benediction

*Benediction Song *Now it's Time to Say Goodbye*

**Now it's time to say goodbye
To go on out from here
To live the visions and the dreams
To scatter hate and fear
So may the Peace be with you now
A peace that's filled with Grace
May it surround all your struggles
And everything you face.
And may you find your own way
To sing out love's own song
With courage, tears and laughter
And then to pass it on.
Yes the time has come to say goodbye
May peace be with you now**

Postlude *Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* - Thomerson

THIS WEEK at CHRIST CHURCH

Today: Coffee Hour

Thursday, Jan 29

Fermenting the Faith, 5pm/6pm

Tuesday, Jan 27

Quilting, 9:30am

NEXT SUNDAY: BVCC Donations

Council Meeting, 6pm

Counters: Sara Rogers, Jill Unglaub

Wednesday, Jan 28

Greeters: Julie Oren

Choir, 7pm

Endowment Meeting, 1pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Requests | All prayer requests are welcomed. As always people can call the office and provide information for a specific request. Pastor Bob is always available for prayer requests in person, by email, or by phone. In addition, a prayer request card will now be available in the church pews (by the church envelopes). Place your prayer request cards in the offering plate. These prayers will be shared in the bulletin and newsletter, for the month they are received. **At the end of the month**, they will not be reposted unless a new prayer request card is completed. With any updates, your input is helpful to make sure we are addressing everyone's concerns and suggestions. *Membership Committee*

Anyone who would like to send notes or cards to **Nancy Schlaack** can send them to the following address:

Nancy Schlaack
c/o Rebecca Rehorst
7314 Wilburton Lane
Northport, AL 35473

Fermenting the Faith | Thursday, Jan 29 at Joe's K-Ranch | We have the downstairs reserved for our use. We will do a true Pub Theology session using some open ended questions that should lead to some spirited discussion since they have no correct answers. Join us at 5pm for dinner or about 6pm for the discussion. I will provide some of the questions beforehand to any that would like to think about them ahead of time. However, preparation is not necessary. *Jim Wick*

NEXT SUNDAY: BVCC Food Donations | We are continuing our monthly donation of food for the BVCC food pantry. Please bring your items to church the first Sunday of each month. Donations can be placed in the grocery cart located in the chapel. Thank you for helping provide for those families in our community in need! Any donations are greatly appreciated!

Needed items: canned vegetables and fruit, peanut butter and jelly/jam, rice and beans, breakfast cereals, oatmeal, shelf-stable milk, canned tuna or chicken, cooking oil, personal hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, shampoo)

February Movie & Bag Lunch | Wednesday, Feb 11 at noon | in the Christ Church Fellowship Hall. Bring a bag lunch. **Movie:** *The Way* (2010) is about an American doctor, Tom Avery (Martin Sheen), who travels to France to retrieve the body of his estranged son, Daniel (Emilio Estevez), who died while walking the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage in Spain; grieving and seeking understanding, Tom decides to complete the journey himself, carrying his son's ashes and meeting other pilgrims, leading to profound personal transformation and connection.

This movie will serve as a basis for noon Lenten services beginning the following week after Ash Wednesday. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Membership Committee

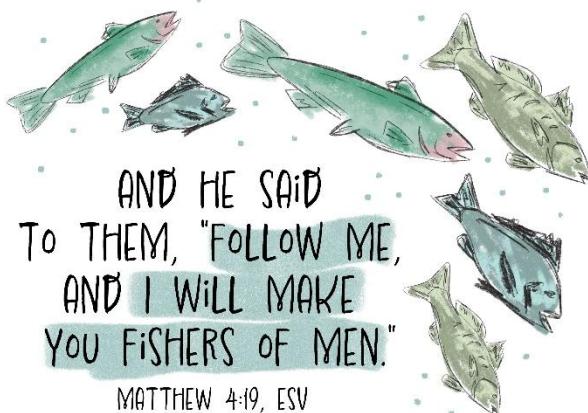
Updating the Christ Church Directory | The Membership committee is in the process of updating the correct mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for all the members of our congregation. Please contact the office with any updates or on a Sunday morning contact *Jan Naefken or Randene Wick*.

Christ Church Paper Drive | The Divine Intervention warming room is in need of paper products, specifically paper towels and toilet paper. A collection box for donations is located outside the office near the Lenox Street entrance. We will be collecting these items throughout January and February.

Many Thanks from Divine Intervention | The beef stew and meatball stew were devoured by the 14 guests, plus volunteers, and staff on January 15th. The salad with a variety of toppings, fresh rolls, and yummy desserts were appreciated by everyone. We have discovered that providing rice as a side is appreciated by the guests. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the meal and/or helped serve the food. *“People who give you their food, give you their heart”* ~Cesar Chavez

Mardi Gras Celebration | Sunday, Feb 15 during Coffee Hour

Ash Wednesday | Noon at Christ Church & 7pm at Prince of Peace Lutheran



Monthly Activity	December	YTD
Contributions	\$23,473	\$161,315
Other Income	\$7	\$42,904
Total Income	\$23,480	\$204,219
Expenses	\$12,593	\$216,578
Budgeted Amount	\$14,867	\$178,400

Christ Church UCC
915 E Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-481-3530 | office@uccmke.org

Website: uccmke.org

Facebook: facebook.com/christchurchbayview

Instagram: instagram.com/christ_church_uccmke/

Livestream: youtube.com/@ChristChurchUCCBayViewWI

If you should need pastoral support, please contact
Pastor Bob at 440-943-6321 or pastor@uccmke.org

