Christ Episcopal Church

Norwalk, Connecticut

Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 22, 2026

Prelude: Be Thou But Near …… J.S. Bach

Opening Hymn # 433 We Gather Together

Morning Prayer: Rite II (BCP 77-102)
Pentecost Season

Officiant: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.
Psalm 19:14

Confession of Sin BCP 79

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

Officiant and People:
(All kneeling, if possible)

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Officiant and People: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Opening Versicle **BCP 80**
All stand

Officiant: Lord open our lips.
People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

Officiant: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God.
Response: **Come let us adore him.**

Jubilate *Psalm 100* **BCP 82**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Lessons
A Reading From Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As
shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will
rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick
darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them
into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the
inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel
shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich
pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them
lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up
the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them
with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean
sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your
horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be
ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them
and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince
among them; I the Lord have spoken.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7a

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
3 For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7 For he is our God, *
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

A Reading from Ephesians 1:15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this
reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God
of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as
you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive
what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance
among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe,
according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he
raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all
rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this
age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the
head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 13 A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine*
Read By Half Verse

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths;*
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Sequence Hymn: # 291 We Plow The Fields and Scatter the Good Seed

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne
of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from
another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand
and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are
blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 for I
was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger
and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I
was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it
that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it
that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you,
just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he
will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared
for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave
me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me
clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was
it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of
you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of
these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous
into eternal life."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Apostles Creed
Officiant & People Together, Standing **BCP 96**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Offertory Hymn: # 290 Come Ye Thankful People Come

Doxology: **"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;**
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love."

The Prayers of the People Form III **BCP 387**
Standing or kneeling

Officiant: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
Response: ***That we all may be one.***

Officiant: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
Response: ***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

Officiant: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
Response: ***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

Officiant: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world:
Response: ***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Officiant: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
Response: ***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Officiant: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
Response: ***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Officiant: Give to the departed eternal rest;
Response: ***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

Officiant: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy:
Response: ***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. (silence)

Especially for: Suzanne, Joan, Ron, Blaize, Shannon, Kelly, Albert, Bruce, Heath, Alan, Ruth, Mary, Tracy, Kyle, Barbara, Craig, Marilyn, Keith, Sandy, Michael, Trisha, Al, Rose, Kenny, Bob, Nico, Barbara, Jesse, Lloyd, Cookie, Lee, John, Julie, Chris, Karen, Amanda, Jim, Linda, Meg and Carrie.

ECCT CYCLE OF PRAYER: With the Episcopal Church of Connecticut, today we pray for:

All Saints', Wolcott; St. Paul's, Woodbury; Grace, Yantic

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: Together with the Anglican Communion throughout the world, today we pray for:

The Church of England

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and with thanksgiving for all the blessings in our lives.

VIGIL LIGHT: The Vigil Light burns this week in loving memory of Frieda Engelhardt.

Suffrages

Officiant says V, People say R

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Officiant: Let us pray

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People (Read in Unison) **BCP 101**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom **BCP 102**

Officiant: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen

Sung Prayer: Go In Peace (INSERT)

Closing Hymn # 288 Praise To God Immortal Praise

Dismissal

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude: Simple Gifts …… 18th Century Shaker Song

WHAT'S NEW AT CCEN?

Stewardship letters and 2027 pledge cards have been mailed out.
Please return your pledge card by mail to:
Christ Episcopal Church 2 Emerson Street East Norwalk, CT 06855 or put in the offering plate on any Sunday.
We appreciate your support of our church and your prompt reply to help the vestry plan for the 2027 budget.

BOOK BUNCH:

These are the upcoming selections for the next few months:

Comfort and Joy by Kristin Hannah on December 16.

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi on January 20.

Please join us for one of our discussions!

The Book Bunch has copies of books read by the club in our church library. Please feel free to borrow a book!

ANGEL FOOD PANTRY:

Please consider volunteering your time to help us staff the food pantry more regularly.

We appreciate all donations and helping hands too!

Thank you for all the donations for our special Thanksgiving bags for our community!

If you want to donate any items, we can use rice, boxes or cans of evaporated milk, canned meats (tuna, chicken, SPAM), canned vegetables or fruits, pasta sauce, pasta, peanut butter, bar soap, toothpaste, deodorant and shampoo at this time.

We have been supplying people in need that have contacted us and appreciate all your donations which allows us to help the community. If you know of someone in need, please contact Lisa Helwig in the church office at 203-866-7442 or by email at secretaryccen@gmail.com

THE CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH FAMILY WELCOMES YOU!

2 Emerson Street, East Norwalk, Connecticut 06855

203.866.7442

www.christepiscopalnorwalkct.org

Vestry

George Helwig Senior Warden, Frank Ross Junior Warden

Debbie Ross Treasurer. Liz Conti Clerk of the Vestry

Kim Harris Vestry Member, Debbie Bloom Vestry Member

Organist: Betty Belcher

What is the mission of the Church?

The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. *Book of Common Prayer, Page 855*