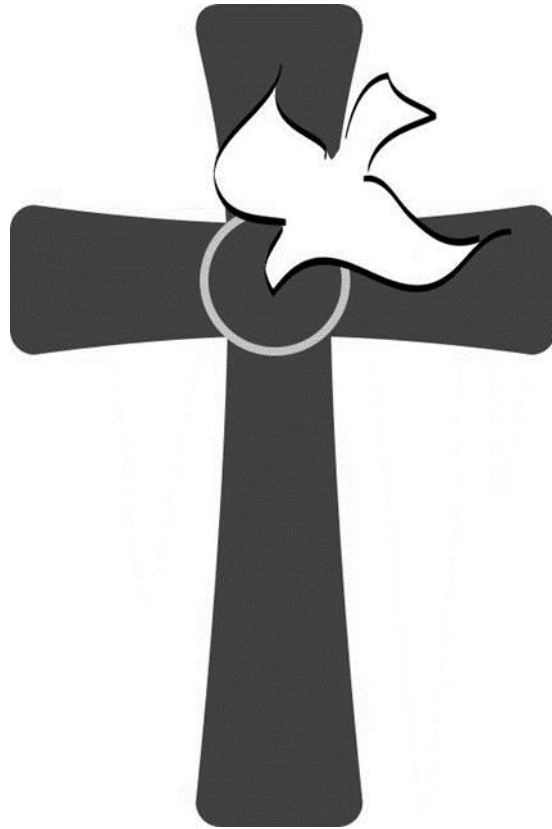


ORDINARY PEOPLE ✦ EXTRAORDINARY SPIRIT
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EAST NORWALK, CONNECTICUT



THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017

A few housekeeping notes before worship begins:

Please consider entering the sanctuary in silence, reverence, and in preparation for worship.

Please turn off your cellular telephones as you enjoy the prelude! Thank You.

ALL are invited to worship in this place, including young children and their occasional noise; so, if your child needs to stretch their legs, we have a long aisle and a few steps just for such things.

IF (and only IF) YOU would prefer—Christ Church does offer childcare during worship.

If you think your child might benefit from having a book available to them, they are located on book racks in the narthex (at the front doors) and the Gathering Place (out the side door, to the right of the pulpit).

A wheelchair accessible, all-gender restroom (also equipped with infant changing table) is located out the side door (to the right of the pulpit) and then to your left.

Gluten free hosts are available upon request.

Small amplification devices, with individual earphones, are available in the narthex (at the front doors).

Please consult an usher for answers to other questions you may have.

There's a place for Everyone at Christ Episcopal Church. Welcome home!

DIOCESIAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: St. Mark's, Bridgeport; St. Mark's, Bridgewater; St. John's, Bristol; For soup kitchens and food pantries

VIGIL LIGHT: The Vigil Light burns this week in anticipation of the bright hope of the New Year.

BOOK BUNCH: The next book club meeting is **January 16**, at 7:30. The book selection is **The Whole Town's Talking** by Fanny Flagg. The selection for the February 20, meeting is **Our Souls at Night** by Kent Haruf. Please contact Debbie Ross at **DRoss56@aol.com** for more details.

BACKPACK CLUBS: You too may join the CT Food Bank in its regular support of Backpack Clubs in the Norwalk Public Schools. Barbara Felter as the point person. Barbara wants everyone to know how much Wolfpit School appreciates your generosity. Most of the items you have donated provide breakfast for needy children. Items may be left in the basket near the pulpit.

Items needed:

Juice Boxes

Milk Boxes (same style, like Parmalat, etc.)

Single Serve Cereals

Fruit Snacks

Fruit Cups

Instant Oatmeal Packets (not cardboard cans)

Granola Bars

Chef Boyardee Ravioli Cups w/pull tops

Macaroni and Cheese Cups w/pull tops

Single Serve Chips/Popcorn

A BIG THANK YOU to **Mother Laura Queen** who has graciously filled in as our supply priest several times over the past few months. This **Sunday, December 31** will be her last scheduled Sunday for a while. Please make plans to join us Sunday morning as we say "see you soon". We will welcome our new supply priest on January 7, **Fr. Joe Parish**, who will be with until we find our permanent Missional Priest.

CHRIST CHURCH LADIES' BRUNCH - JANUARY 7, 2018: There will be a brunch for all the women of the church at Shorehaven Country Club immediately after the 10:00 AM church service. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Please reserve a spot with Bunny Zamm, (203) 853-3004. Make checks payable to Christ Church.

The Opening Hymn 109

The First Nowell

vs 1-4

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star
 3 And by the light of that same star
 4 This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5 Then en - tered in those wise men three

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far;
 3 three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4 o'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5 full re - v - erent - ly up - on their knee,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,
 3 to seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4 and there it did both stop and stay
 5 and of - fered there in his pres - ence

1 on a cold win-ter's night— that was— so deep.
 2 and— so it con - tin - ued both day— and night.
 3 and to fol - low the star— wher - ev - er it went.
 4 right— o - ver the place— where Je - sus lay.
 5 their— gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.

Refrain

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6 Then let us all with one accord
 sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Alternative Refrain
Descant (others unison)

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,
 born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The people standing if able, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Celebrant then continues

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
 perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Gloria: s278

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant then adds

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
 my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
 and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
 and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
 and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
 that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
 and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

 The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

Psalm 147:13-21 *Laudate Dominum*

- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
 praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
 he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
 and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
 he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
 who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
 he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
 his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
 to them he has not revealed his judgments.
 Hallelujah!

A Reading from the Book of Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

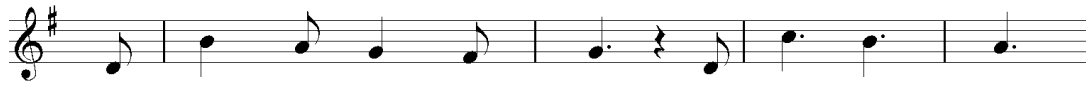
People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

The Sequence Hymn 110

The Snow Lay on the Ground

1st and 2nd before
3rd and 4th after the Gospel



1 The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
2 'Twas Ma - ry, daugh - ter pure of ho - ly Anne,
3 Saint Jo - seph, too, was by to tend the child;
4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne;



when Christ our Lord was born On Christ - mas night. Ve -
that brought in - to this world the God made man. She
to guard him, and pro - tect his mo - ther mild; the
for he whom Ma - ry bore was God the Son. O



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
laid him in a stall at Beth - le - hem; the
an - gels hov - ered round, and sang this song, Ve -
come, then, let us join the heaven - ly host, to



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
ass and ox - en shared the roof with them. Ve -
ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
praise the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

Then, all standing if able, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1:1-18

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Reverend Laura Queen

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

Silence may follow. All kneel if able.

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor — earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4 What — can I give him, poor — as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:
 cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim throng - ed the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow — on — snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
 but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise — man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord — God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Come let us adore Christ, the Lord. Let us pray “*Glorious Lord, grant us your peace*”

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: Make joyful our hearts.
Strengthen your church with humility and faith that we might triumph over the power of evil.
Glorious Lord, grant us your peace

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you abhor neither the simple nor the lowly.
Shine you light on all the world that the nations may look upon your truth and find their salvation.
Glorious Lord, grant us your peace

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: may all of creation burst forth in songs of praise.
May all the works of your hand glorify you.
Glorious Lord, grant us your peace

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: summon the people to yourself.
May all of the distractions and heartaches of our lives fade away in the joy of your presence.
Glorious Lord, grant us your peace

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: you love us so deeply. Grant us your healing grace to sinners,
to the poor, to those in need of love. Open your arms to the sick and the lonely.
Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially... *(prayer list is read)*

(We respond by repeating the names raised by the intercessor in prayer.)

The People may add their own petitions. The Intercessor continues.

Christ the Lord, we humbly adore you: all glory be given to you. You blessed our earthly bodies with
your birth, and promise to raise us to new life by your death and resurrection.
Glorious Lord, grant us your peace.

The Intercessor and people pray together:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of
those who shall choose a priest for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care
for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Intercessor continues.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept. Intercessor and People continue

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant:

Blessed are you, O people of God, for the one of peace has visited you and has redeemed your sins!
May the God who dwells among you overshadow you with holiness, forgive your wrongs, and
protect you as a shepherd protects his sheep.

The Peace

BCP, 360

All stand if able. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Announcements ~ The Offering

The Reverend Laura Queen

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The Offertory Anthem

A Festive Madrigal
Quickly arise to greet the morn,
Christmas Bells are ringing.
Out of the night a child is born
Come and rejoice with singing.
Fa la la la la

Dave and Jean Perry

Wake up the day in dance and song;
Joyous tidings bringing.
Radiant breaks the Christmas dawn.
Come and rejoice with singing.
Fa - la la la la

Darkness and shadows fade away,
Birds overhead are winging.
Hope for the world is born today.
Come and rejoice with singing.
Fa - la la la la

The Doxology

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Book of Common Prayer, Page 367

The people remain standing if able. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **Our hearts are with the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

The Sanctus

Hymn S128

Matthias



Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The people stand or kneel if able. Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for **ALL** for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
 Therefore let us keep the feast. *Alleluia!*

The Agnus Dei

Hymn S165

Mathias

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy

on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy

on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.
 Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
 and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

(The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.)

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

BCP, 366

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever.

The Blessing

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.

The Amen

A - men, a - men, a - men.

All stand if able.

The Recessional Hymn 93

Angels From The Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his na - tal star:
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

Christmas Medley

Stickles

THERE'S A PLACE FOR EVERYONE HERE. WELCOME HOME!

2 Emerson Street • East Norwalk, Connecticut 06855
203.866.7442



www.christchurcheastnorwalk.org
@ChristChurchEN



Betty Belcher, Minister of Music, 203.846.1274, music@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Bridget Pritchard, Church School, 203.838.4901, churchschool@christchurcheastnorwalk.org

The Vestry of Christ Church

Marsha Dunn, Sr. Warden, 203.286.8166, mdunn@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Donald Bieling, Jr. Warden, 203.247.5423, dbieling@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Ginny Deering, Treasurer, 702.595.9449, gdeering@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Liz Conti, Clerk, 203.515.7778, lconti@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Nancy Pratt, (2018) 203.434.4244, npratt@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Jackie Muha, (2018) 203.524.0069, jmuha@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Barbara Felter, (2019) 203.847.5237, bfelter@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Lisa Helwig, (2019) 203.354.0724, lhelwig@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Kim Harris, (2020) 203.919.2478, kharris@christchurcheastnorwalk.org
Paul Mordoff, (2020) 203.919.6765, pmordoff@christchurcheastnorwalk.org

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

DECEMBER 3, 2017: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Organist: Betty Belcher
Altar Guild: Ruth & Lou Lovallo
Ushers: Ed Zamm
Lector: George Helwig
Intercessor: Ginny Deering
Presider: The Reverend Laura Queen