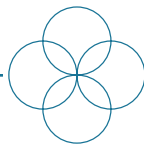


We embrace all as we journey
the way of Jesus



CHRIST
CHURCH UCC



July 12, 2026

Welcome

Prelude

"It Is Well with my Soul"
Jacob Priddy-piano

Philip Bliss

Call to Worship

Scott Turner, Liturgist

One: Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**All: For once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.**

One: Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

All: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

One: Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

All: AMEN!

Red Hymnal #248

"Our Great Savior"

Prayer of Confession

Welcoming God: We come before You today with hearts humbled and grateful, remembering the story Your Son told of the prodigal who wandered far, yet was never beyond the reach of Your love.

Like that son, we confess that at times we have turned away, chasing our own desires, forgetting the safety of Your embrace. Yet, even when we are "a long way off," You see us. You run toward us. You welcome us home with open arms and a heart full of compassion.

Lord, as we gather here, help us to rest in the truth that Your mercy is greater than our mistakes, and Your grace is deeper than our shame. Teach us to rejoice not only in our own return, but also in the restoration of others. Remove from us the spirit of the elder brother and fill us with the joy of Your kingdom where every lost one is found.

May this time of worship be our homecoming — a place where we lay down our burdens, receive Your embrace, and rise again to walk in Your ways.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, who welcomes sinners and eats with them. Amen.

Children's Moment

Assurance of God's Pardon

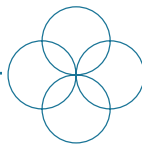
Offertory

"Goodness of God"

*Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram,
Ben Fielding, and Brian Johnson*

Talia Zoll-vocals, Jacob Priddy-piano

Prayer of Dedication



Scriptures

Luke 18:9-14

Sermon

The Homecoming is For Us All!

Rev. Diane Vego

Song

"Just as I Am"

*C. Elliott, D. Moffitt, Smith, Cottrell, and Bradbury
Arr. Dan Galbraith*

Verse 1

Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Verse 2

Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot
O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Chorus

I come broken to be mended
I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued
I come empty to be filled
I come guilty to be pardoned
By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms
Praise God just as I am

Verse 3

Just as I am I would be lost
But mercy and grace my freedom bought
And now to glory in Your cross
O Lamb of God, I come, I come
[to Chorus]

Sacrament of Holy Communion

"Behold the Lamb"

Martin Willett

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Red Hymnal #334

"Blest Be the Tie"

Benediction

Postlude

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"
Jacob Priddy-piano

Doris Akers

Offerings

If you would like to make an offering, you may put it in the plate during the service or give online using this QR code:



• Welcome to Christ Church

If you'd like information about our church, you can find our online service, newsletter, and much more on the church's website: christchurchft.org.

Visitors are encouraged to fill out our "Friendship Form" by scanning this QR code or going to: <https://bit.ly/ccucc-welcome>



• Our Kids Need You!

There has been a lot of organizing downstairs for our new Children's Christian Education program, Kids for Christ! We are excited about this program and are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in supporting our team, please see Carolyn Honchell, Debbie Paillette, or Ellen Turner.

• Brighton Center Needs Donations!

The Brighton Center is running really low on food. We are collecting **Canned pastas with meat or cheese (such as cheese ravioli) for July**. Thanks for helping!

• Needed for *The Guide*

Send Michele a summer photo! In the August, and September edition of *The Guide*, we would love to have a photo from your vacation or a highlight from your summer for everyone to enjoy. Thank you!

• Birthdays and Anniversaries

Debbie Paillette
Jeff Searcy
Sandra Hurtt
Kristyn Lukjan
Gordon Braun
Cherie Draper
Kelly & Scott Kuhnhein
Betsy & Rob Beimesche
Max & Anna Gise
Janet & William Fischer

• Discipleship Opportunities

Each week — All are welcome! No need to sign up.

- **Sundays, 9 a.m., History Room**
Adult Discipleship
- **Wednesdays, 3 p.m. (Online)**
Small group discussion.
(Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/ccwednesday>)
- **Thursdays, 12 p.m., History Room**
Book study group

• Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, July. 28 at 11:30 a.m.

In keeping with the celebration of our Nations 250th anniversary, our July Lunch and Learn will feature a presentation about **John Dunlap**, best known as the printer of the first copies of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Our guest presenter will be **Gary Walton, owner and Director of the Cincinnati Print and Type Museum of Cincinnati**. He will be teaching us about the life and work of John Dunlap and the different printed versions of the Declaration of Independence. **Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m.** followed by the presentation at noon. **For lunch reservations, contact Nancy Hunter.**

• Prayer Changes Us

Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:

Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

Prayer Requests:

David Hosea, Makayla, Kelly Greenwalt, Karma Klingenberg, Katie Leftin, Jim Rechtin Jr., Maggie, Sallie Schmidt, Jeff McCall, Marcia Storm, Chris P., Mike Bizzarro, Mark Helminiak, Tim Kennedy, the family of Marcia Hosea, the family of Joyce Fehler, Laura, Jeff, Jack Emmerich, Melissa Brockman, Joe, Jed, Kelsey Morgan, Rich, Carolyn Honchell, the family of Barb Stinnett, the family of Elsie Sent, Ellen C., Barb Walkenhorst Derby, Jim Jones, Jeff Krohmer, Joe Hall, Bob Daley, the family of Jeff Bathiany

(Names underlined indicate request for anonymity)

Please contact the office at: (859) 441-2565 or office@christchurchft.org to make any changes.