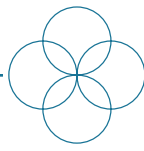


We embrace all as we journey
the way of Jesus



CHRIST
CHURCH UCC



August 2, 2026

Welcome

Prelude

"He Will Quiet You"

Lincoln Brewster

Brenda Swan, Pam Weber, and Talia Zoll-vocals, Toni Sheffer-piano

Call to Worship

Marcia Storm, Liturgist

One: One: We come with our questions, our doubts,
and the heavy burdens we carry day by day.

**All: We are a people who are not afraid to wrestle with God, to struggle for justice,
and to ask for a blessing.**

One: In the midst of our struggles, our griefs, and our deepest longings,
God meets us face to face.

All: The night of wrestling is passing, and daybreak is on the rise!

One: Though we may walk with a limp, we rise with a new name and a renewed spirit.

**All: Let us worship the God who transforms us, blesses us, and calls us by name.
Amen! Let us worship God together!**

Red Hymnal #33

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Praying Together (*unison*)

Merciful God, the story of Jacob shows your willingness to enter into the messiness of our human struggles—into fractured relationships, family differences, un-reconciled situations with people we care about. Yet we confess that too often we hold on because we do not want to loosen our grip on our possessions and our selfish desires. Often we fear that our very lives will be dislocated by your kingdom values of justice, mercy and peace.

Help us to wrestle with the conflicting values, desires and pressures that confront us daily so that we can unclench our hands and open ourselves to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Only then can we fully embrace others in their pain—and be embraced—in the name of Christ. Amen

Children's Moment

Assurance of God's Pardon

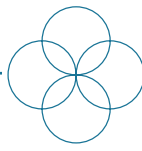
Offertory

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

Trad. I Spiritual, arr. by Lloyd Larson

Talia Zoll-vocals, Max Gise-guitar, Toni Sheffer-piano

Prayer of Dedication



Scriptures

Genesis 32:22-32

Sermon

Wrestling With God

Tom Daria

Red Hymnal #460

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Song

"Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly"

Chris Tomlin, Pat Barrett, Jason Ingram

Congregation joins on the refrain:

Refrain:

Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly

With You, God.

In all things, in all ways, walk humbly

With You, God.

Benediction

Postlude

"Bordón"

Max Gise-guitar

Virginia Yep

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:



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Diane Vego

Interim Pastor

Max Gise

Worship Coordinator

Talia Zoll

Worship Coordinator

Danny Manning

Choir Director

Michele Wright

Communications Director/Administrator

Barb Walkenhorst Derby

Bookkeeper

Jeff Searcy

Custodian

• 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>



• Brighton Center Needs Donations!

The Brighton Center is running really low on food. **Donations for August have been changed to Knorr side dishes.** If you already purchased pancake mix, please bring them in. Thanks for helping!

• Our Kids Need You!

We are excited about the new Children's Christian Education program, Kids for Christ, but we need your help! If you are interested in supporting our team, please see Carolyn Honchell, Debbie Paillette, or Ellen Turner.

• Why are You a Member Here?

Please email or write down 1-2 short sentences that say why you are a member of Christ Church and get them to Michele. These will go in *The Guide*, and we're also hoping to create a slide show that plays at the beginning of the service. Your photo, either by yourself or as part of a group, would make it even better.

• NKY UCC Lunch Gathering!

Come enjoy a day of food and fellowship with all our NKY UCC churches! There will be dartball set up for anyone who is interested. Pick up a flyer at the front or back of the church. **Sunday, August 30, at 12:30 p.m.**
St. John's Newport, 415 Park Avenue
Please bring a side dish.

• Birthdays (No Anniversaries)

Dee Bathiany
Andrew Hack

• 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

• Needed for *The Guide*

- 1) **Send Michele a summer photo!** In the September edition of *The Guide*, we would love to have a photo from your vacation this year or a highlight from your summer to enjoy.
- 2) **Is there a special recognition or event happening in your life?** Please let Michele know so she can put it in the newsletter.
- 3) **Take photos!** Anytime you are at an event associated with the church or a special service, please consider taking photos and emailing them to Michele. Always much appreciated!

• 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, the family of Carol Himes

(Names underlined indicate request for anonymity)

Please contact the office to make any changes.