TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

August 16, 2026
8:00am 10:30am (Livestreamed on Facebook)

CHRIST CHURCH
The Episcopal Church of Norcross

We invite you to join as an active participant in the worship of God. The worship service can be found in the red Book of Common Prayer (found in the pew racks) beginning on page 355. The scripture readings and the Prayers of the People are printed in the worship bulletin. Scripture texts are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary. We use the red Book of Common Prayer, the blue 1982 Hymnal and Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal, all located in the pew racks.

In the time before our worship begins, please be mindful of those who need this time for quiet prayer and meditation.

Please silence all cell phones and other digital devices and we ask that you refrain from "texting" during the service.

Newcomers and visitors, we welcome you warmly. May you find here, by the grace of God, that which feeds your soul.

The mission of Christ Church Episcopal is to live, love, and serve boldly together in the name of Jesus Christ.

Holy Eucharist: Rite II
The Word of God

Prelude *Trumpet Tune* arr. Richard Blake

Processional Hymn *Lauda anima* Hymnal #410
Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

Opening Acclamation BCP p. 355

Collect for Purity BCP p. 355

Gloria Hymnal #S-236

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading Genesis 45:1-15
A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

Psalm 133 *Ecce, quam bonum!* BCP p. 787

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!

2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,

3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

Second Reading Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

Sequence Hymn *Mit Freuden zarr* Hymnal #408
Sing praise to God who reigns above

All remain standing.

Holy Gospel Matthew 15:10-28

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter

is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon The Rev. Edgar Otero

Nicene Creed BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Lord God, let your love dwell within us and shine through our lives that our prayers might lead us into abundant life as we say Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the church; that it might be a sanctuary and the wellspring of hope for what is broken in our lives and in our world. We pray especially for Sean and Rob, our bishops, and Edgar and Dan, our clergy. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for the nation, that it might live into its promise and be a place of safety, Justice, and dignity for all people. We pray especially for Donald, our president, Brian, our governor, Nicole, our county chair, and Craig, our mayor. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for our local communities, that they might become places inspired by Jesus' vision for human community. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for our earth; that our land may continue to provide abundantly for our needs and that we might be effective stewards of its riches. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for God's mercy on the members of our diocesan family currently held in immigration detention, and for their families. We pray for the children held in detention across our nation. We pray for their release and for the restoration of humane and ethical immigration enforcement. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for those who suffer; that they might be delivered from their distress and know your healing power in their lives. We pray especially for Brooks, Heather, John, Bob, Jenny, Debanhi, Sherry, Judy & Richard, Graham & Laraine, Buenaventura, and Wes. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for the dead and the dying; that they might be welcomed into your loving embrace and that they and we might rise again in the glory of your new age. We especially pray for The Rev. Allan Sandlin, priest in the Diocese of Atlanta. Lord in your mercy,
People: *Hear our prayer.*

The people may add their own thanksgivings and petitions.

Leader: We pray for those who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Jeff, Daniel, Andrew, and Mamie. Lord in your mercy,
People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for those who minister to others, especially the Neighborhood Cooperative Ministries, Rainbow Village, our Thrift Shop volunteers, our Stephen Ministers and those for whom they care, our Path to Shine volunteers, and for our Vestry. Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We give thanks for the gift of the altar flowers, given Millicent Clarke-Mullings in celebration of her granddaughter, Hannah Mullings, on the occasion of her birthday on August 16. Lord in your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Celebrant: God Almighty, creator of all that is, known and unknown; the entirety of your presence and power are beyond our comprehension, help us to understand as best we can and to live lives in accord with your will for us to be laborers for your kingdom. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin BCP p. 360

Absolution BCP p. 360

All stand.

Peace BCP p. 360

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

Mission of Mercy Recipient
The Mission of Mercy recipient for August is Episcopal Relief & Development.

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

E-Giving QR Code—->

THE HOLY COMMUNION

As we prepare for Holy Communion let us listen attentively with an open heart to the music of the anthem.

We have gluten free communion wafers available for anyone who requests them.
Please ask the priest for them when you are at the altar rail.

Offertory Anthem *Morning has broken* arr. Richard Blake

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Presentation Hymn *Old 100th* Hymnal #380
From all that dwell below the skies

The people remain standing.

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP p. 361

Sanctus Hymnal #S-130

The Lord's Prayer BCP p. 364

Breaking of the Bread		BCP p. 364
Fraction Anthem		Hymnal #S-164
Invitation		BCP p. 364
Communion Anthem	*When I survey the wondrous cross*	arr. Richard Blake
Postcommunion Prayer		BCP p. 365
Blessing		
The priest blesses the people		
Postcommunion Hymn	*Moscow* Thou, whose almighty word	Hymnal #371
Dismissal		BCP p. 366
Postlude	*Immortal, Invisible*	arr. Richard Blake

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Tithing is a response to grace and a means of grace.
Stewardship Quote

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Prayers for Members of Our Parish
Brooks Breedlove, Heather Emery, John Emery, Bob Haer, Jenny Ham,
Debanhi Hernandez, Sherry Milano, Judy & Richard Moore,
Graham & Laraine Perrins, Buenaventura Rafael, Wes Quesenberry.

Prayers for the Repose of the Soul
The Rev. Allan Sandlin, priest in the Diocese of Atlanta.

Prayers for Members of our Military
Jeff Jennings, Daniel O'Keefe, Andrew Pridgen, and Mamie Pridgen.

Prayers for Friends and Family
Veniamin Batuev, Brad Burns, John Buchek, Sophia Crawford, Nick Forleades,
Richard Freeman, Leah Barton Frost, Eduardo Guzman, Val McCall, Howard McNally,
Kaye McRoberts, Riley Moore, Sidney Mulkey, Patty Peña, Bonnie Pitman, Ann Pruitt,
Frances Rich, Elba Ruiz, Gary & Cindy Russell, Andrew Thompson,
Peter Tzianabos, Katherine Wright, and Peter Zakis.

Please call 770/447-1166 or e-mail the church office at office@ccnorcross.org to add or remove names from the prayer list.

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TIME-SENSITIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please read The Christ Church Chronicle (CCC) at www.ccnorcross.org for detailed announcements.

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL!
To make your visit smoother, please scan the QR code with your smartphone. This will take you to our electronic visitors book, where you can quickly and easily enter your details. Your information helps us keep in touch with all new family members. Welcome home!

JOIN US: A FAIRWELL FIESTA FOR FR. EDGAR

Sunday, August 23, 2026, following the 11:00am combined bilingual service. Please join us in Webster Hall immediately after the 11:00am service for a joyful gathering of food and fellowship to thank Fr. Edgar and celebrate his ministry among us, and to wish him well as he begins his new ministry in Virginia. We'd love your help making this celebration special! If you're able to bring a dish to share, help with setup or cleanup, please click here to sign up. If you have questions, please contact Kathy Smith at ksmithd106@gmail.com or 678-644-9304. If you need the full link, here it is: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E48A4AD2DA5FD0-64941207-fredgar. The QR code is an option.

CONFIRMATION - RECEPTION - REFIRMATION

Those who are taking the current Adult Ed class using the book "Walk In Love" will be able to participate in the confirmation celebration in December 6, 2026 at the Cathedral. We will also have a formal confirmation class starting August 9, 2026, in room 107 of the Ed. Wing. For further questions, please contact Deacon Dan Burrows at deacon@ccnorcross.org.

LIVESTREAM LINKS

Our services are livestreamed and can be viewed on either Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchEpiscopalNorcross/ or YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/@ccnorcross.

SCOFFREY'S CHOCOLATE DISPLAY

These delicious handcrafted treats--made with the finest Swiss chocolate are available to purchase during the week, 10am until 4pm, and on Sundays from 8am until pm. They are located at the back of Webster Hall. 20% of all proceeds will be donated to Outreach at Christ Church. The Sewing Guild is taking a break from the sale of their items, but will return later in the Fall.

STEWARDSHIP 2026—TELL OUT MY SOUL

If you have not had the opportunity to return your 2026 pledge card, we encourage you to do so soon and to consider how you will support the mission and ministry of Christ Church Episcopal in the year ahead. We have several ways to return your pledge cards: mail it through the U.S. Postal Service, hand deliver to the church office, drop it in the offering plate at any worship service, drop it in the small black box in the Narthex, or signup on line through the church website at this link: https://www.ccnorcross.org/2026-estimate-of-giving/ Let's rejoice in all that God is doing here as we tell out our souls and continue building a vibrant, welcoming community of faith.

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Liturgical Participants for 8:00am and 10:30am on Sunday, August 16, 2026

Celebrant ..... The Rev. Edgar Otero
Deacon ..... The Rev. Daniel J. Burrows
Acolytes ..... Afiong Ekong, Kristie Bernard
Altar Guild ..... Ann Post, Amy Ross
Eucharistic Ministers ..... Ange Justice; Mike Wood
Greeters ..... Carla Johnson, Amy Ross
Lectors ..... Steve Smith; Myrna Campbell-Kelly
Ushers ..... Karyn Angstadt, Carla Johnson
Vestry of the Day ..... Ange Justice (8am); Carla Johnson (10:30am); Mike Breedlove (1pm)

Liturgical Participants for combined bilingual service at 11:00am, Sunday, August 23, 2026

Celebrant ..... The Rev. Edgar Otero
Diocesan Representative ..... Sally Ulrey
..... Canon for Congregational Vitality and Ministry Development
Deacon ..... The Rev. Daniel J. Burrows
Acolytes ..... Kassie Diehl, Hispanic children, Maria Rafael, Abraham Rafael
Altar Guild ..... Carla Johnson, Ann Post
Eucharistic Ministers ..... Mike Wood, Aracely Hernandez
Greeters ..... Guy & Susan Gupton
Lectors ..... Ashley Boggs, Cristina Sandoval
Ushers ..... Karyn Angstadt, Scott Gottuso
Vestry of the Day ..... Diane Lynch & Kathy Smith

Liturgical Participants for the combined bilinguals 11:00am service on Sunday, August 30, 2026

Celebrant ..... The Rev. Mimi Guerra, Missioner for Hispanic Ministries
Deacon ..... The Rev. Daniel J. Burrows
Acolytes ..... Kassie Diehl, Jodi Arminio
Altar Guild ..... Jodi Arminio, Lori Landis
Eucharistic Ministers ..... Jenny Ham; Ann Post, Lori Landis
Greeters ..... Carla Johnson, Annette Stewart
Lectors ..... Jenny Ham; Myrna Campbell-Kelly
Ushers ..... Scott Gottuso
Vestry of the Day ..... Mike Breedlove (8am); Joel Christian (10:30am); Carla Johnson (1pm)

Staff

Rosa Hernandez—Thrift Shop Manager ..... thriftshop@ccnorcross.org
Beth Holland—Parish Administrator ..... office@ccnorcross.org
Gregory Thompson—Music Minister ..... music@ccnorcross.org

Pat Corkum—Registrar ..... pcorkum68@yahoo.com
Joel Christian—Handbell Director ..... isometropia@gmail.com
Audio/Video Stream Team ..... Glen Gordon, Technical Director & Administrator;
..... Brook Sizemore, Dwalu Tay

Vestry

Afiong Ekong; Sr. Warden & Pastoral Care ..... warden@ccnorcross.org
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Mike Breedlove; Stewardship ..... mbreedlove415@gmail.com
Joel Christian; Communications & Growth ..... isometropia@gmail.com
Manuel Holguin; Buildings & Grounds ..... maferhol@gmail.com
Carla Johnson; Worship ..... jcarla@prodigy.net
Ange Justice; Finance & Missions ..... stucknsouth@msn.com
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