

Christ Church
Third Sunday After Trinity
June 28, 2009
10:30am Berkeley, 5:00pm Rockridge

Gathering and Reflecting

"Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends."

-The Elder Brother

"Trust and gratitude are the disciplines for the conversion of the elder son.... Along with trust there must be gratitude—the opposite of resentment. Resentment and gratitude cannot coexist, since resentment blocks the perception and experience of life as a guest. My resentment tells me that I don't receive what I deserve. It always manifests itself as envy.... Both trust and gratitude require the courage to take a risk because distrust and resentment, (and their need to keep their claim on me), keep warning me how dangerous it is to let go of my careful calculations and guarded predictions."

-Miroslav Volf, Exclusion and Embrace

Prelude

Today's Worship Pastor: Bart Garrett
Today's Teaching Pastor: Bart Garrett

Call to Worship - Psalm 96

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
**Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.**

Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
**For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.**

For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
**Splendor and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of nations,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.**

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.

**Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.**

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it;
let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.
Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy;

they will sing before the Lord, for he comes,
he comes to judge the earth.
**He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his truth.**

All Creatures

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Oh, praise Him, Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along
Oh, praise Him, Alleluia
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Let all things their creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
Oh, praise Him, Alleluia
Praise, praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit three in one
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise, praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit three in one
Oh, praise Him, Oh, praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Words and Music by St. Francis of Assisi and William Henry Draper

Hosanna

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You, we turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You, we long for You
'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away

Chorus:

Hosanna, Hosanna!
You are the God Who saves us, worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna!
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You, we turn to You
In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new, You make us new
Words & Music: Paul Baloche, Brenton Brown

Baptism

(William Morgan, Amelia Morgan, Olivia Morgan)

Baptism, like the Eucharist, is a sacrament of God's grace, an outward physical sign of an inward spiritual reality. This adaptation of the Jewish initiation rite of circumcision is a symbol of entrance into new life, into Christ, into his church, and into the kingdom of God. Baptism marks the beginning of the Christian life, reminds us that salvation is a gracious gift from God, and is the basis of all Christian worship and service.

The order of our celebration follows the pattern Jesus gave the church, "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). We baptize in the name of the Father because we are adopted as sons and daughters of the Father. We baptize in the name of the Son because we are united in the death and resurrection of Jesus. We baptize in the name of the Holy Spirit because we are cleansed of our sins to be holy temples of God's life-giving Spirit.

As we remember our baptism throughout life, we are to hear the words Jesus heard from the Father at his baptism, "This is my beloved child, with whom I am well pleased."

Children and Parents

Do you acknowledge that your child is made in the image of God and in need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

I do.

Do you claim God's covenant promises on your child's behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?

I do.

Will you be responsible for seeing that your child is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

I will, with God's help.

Will you by your prayers and witness help your child grow into the full stature of Christ, loving God and neighbor?

I will, with God's help.

Will you teach your child the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe?

I will, with God's help.

Will you raise your child in the nurture of the Church and the grace of Word, prayer, and sacraments?

I will, with God's help.

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God, and do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love, and do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

I do.

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

We will.

The Baptismal Covenant

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended to the dead.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and the respect and dignity of every human being?
I will, with God's help.

Prayer, Baptism, and Thanksgiving

Reception of New Members

(Member Names)

Affirmations of Faith

Do you believe and trust that you are the image of God created with beauty, dignity, and glory to love God and neighbor and to work for the flourishing of human life and society?
I do.

Do you believe and trust that you live among the ruins of Eden and that owing to your failures to love God and neighbor you justly deserve exile, death, and judgment?
I do.

What then is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

Member Commitments

Will you devote yourself anew to the church and continue in “the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers”? Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, and through worship and the sacrificial offerings of your time, talents, and treasures seek to advance God’s purposes in Berkeley, Oakland, and throughout the world?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you persevere in renouncing sin and resisting evil in your life and in the world and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you accept the spiritual guidance of the church and promise to walk in a spirit of Christian love with this congregation, seeking those things that make for unity, purity, and peace?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you proclaim by word and lifestyle the good news of God in Christ? Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you acknowledge Christ’s authority over human society by praying for the world and its leaders, by defending the poor and weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Do you as a congregation promise to love and encourage these brothers and sisters by teaching the good news of God’s love, by being an example of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God’s family in friendship, prayer, and service?

We do.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Welcoming One Another

Children in kindergarten through fourth grade may be dismissed for Children’s Church at this time.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to God the Father,
and to Christ His only Son;
praise we too the Holy Spirit,
binding all the Church as one:
As it was in the beginning,
is for now and evermore.

Amen!

Gloria Patri, 2nd cent., Lyrics Adapted by Carlton Young, 1973

Music by Eric Gilbert ©2009

The Lord’s Word

The Bible (from ‘papyrus, scroll’), consists of the books of the Old Testament (Law, Prophets, and Writings) and the New Testament (Gospels, Acts, Letters, and Revelation). The Scriptures are God’s words – his powerful, authoritative self-expression and revelation. The prose and poetry of the various genres of the Bible tell the story of God’s redeeming love for the world, making us “wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ... thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3). Listen to God’s voice calling, shaping, energizing, and directing his church in her mission to bless the world and build the kingdom of God “on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6).

New Testament Lesson

A reading from Galatians 4:1-7.

Gal 4:1 What I am saying is that as long as heirs are underage they are no different from slaves, although they own the whole estate. 2 They are subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by their fathers. 3 So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. 4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." 7 So you are no longer slaves, but God's children; and since you are his children, he has made you also heirs.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 15:1-2; 11-32.

Lk 15:1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

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Lk 15:11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

31 “ ‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Teaching

Series: The Prodigal God
Title: The Elder Brother

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

- *We offer our gifts in gratitude and faith in response to God's gifts of bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus Christ.*
- *The Christian church has historically taken up alms for the poor, weak, and needy during worship.*
- *Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources -time, talents, treasures - as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace, which enables the church to continue doing God's work in the church, the city, and the world.*
- *Those who are not Christians should feel under no compulsion to give; your presence is a good gift to us.*
- *Many members and regular attenders give tithes and special offerings through automatic bill payment via bank check; your bank will gladly set that up for you. Checks for the offering may be made payable to Christ Church. All gifts are tax deductible with receipts issued at the conclusion of the tax year.*

Prayers of the People

As we prepare to come to Jesus in the feast of the Lord's Supper, we also bring the church, the city, and the world before the throne and table of our King. We pray together with one heart and mind, agreeing with the prayers offered, and adding our own silent prayers.

The Lord's Supper

The signature celebratory feast of Christians has many names: the Love Feast, the Freedom Meal, the Bread Breaking, the Lord's Supper, Communion (from 'sharing'), the Eucharist (from 'thank you'), and the Mass (from 'Go, you are sent out'). This adaptation of the Jewish Passover has always been a common, shared, joyous family meal for those who follow Jesus, looking back to his once-for-all sacrificial death and looking forward to his return. When we celebrate the feast we commune with the risen Lord Jesus who stands as our host to offer forgiveness, healing, and life; we also commune with one another, participating together in the reconciling grace of God.

We invite all who follow Jesus to partake of the Lord's Supper – Baptized Christians who confess the faith, are at peace with God and neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not yet a Christian, or if you are a Christian who is not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage your prayerful observation in the hopes that you may consider your relationship with Jesus and with his church.

The order of our celebration follows the four actions Jesus performed with the bread and wine when he gathered his disciples around the table: he took, he blessed, he broke, and he gave.

“He Took, Blessed, and Broke”

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth. 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:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.
Therefore, let us keep the feast.

As our Savior taught us, so we pray,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.

“He Gave”

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

- *You may come by rows, beginning with the front row, to receive Holy Communion. Eat the bread when you are ready and hold onto the cup (red wine or white grape juice) so we can drink it together as a symbol of our unity in Christ.*
- *Those who are not receiving communion are encouraged to come to the servers to receive a blessing. You may fold your arms across your chest to indicate that you will not receive bread and wine.*
- *Please place your communion cups in the recycle bin in the back of the worship space at the conclusion of the service.*

Prayers During Communion

Prayer for Truth

God, if you are real and you care about me, please show up in my life. Give me understanding of mind and experience of heart to know who you are, who I am, and what life in this world is about. If Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life," then I need you to persuade me. If it is true that "Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again," then give me faith. Amen.

Prayer for Repentance and Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Renouncing Sin

Lord Jesus, you have called us to be poor in spirit, meek, hungry and thirsty for righteousness, merciful, and pure in heart. Grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the bread of life. Enable me to love you with my whole heart and love my neighbor as myself. Amen.

Prayer for Renewal and Commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism, to love God and neighbor, and to a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, to pursue forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace, and to live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee.
Naked, poor, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee,
God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

©2001 Bill Moore Music. Words: Henry Lyte. Music: Bill Moore.

Communion Prayer

Let us give thanks to God.
Lord Jesus, we magnify your name,
for You delight to welcome the humble,
the hungry, and the broken at Your table.
We praise You for pouring out your mercy on us
in these gifts of bread and wine,
through which we celebrate Your coming to dwell with us,
Your life given for us, and Your resurrection from the grave.
Guide our feet in the path of peace until you come again.
Amen.

Surrender

I'm giving You my heart
And all that is within
I lay it all down
For the sake of You my King
I'm giving You my dreams
I'm laying down my rights
I'm giving up my pride
For the promise of new life

Chorus

And I surrender
All to You all to You
And I surrender
All to You all to You

I'm singing You this song
I'm waiting at the cross
And all the world holds dear
I count it all as loss
For the sake of knowing You
The glory of Your name
To know the lasting joy
Even sharing in Your pain
Marc James © 2000 Vineyard Songs

Community Life

Blessing and Sending

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. 2
Corinthians 13:13
And also with you.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Those who regularly worship with us may help us recycle the outer worship folder by placing them in the re-use bin in the back.

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New to Christ Church?

We encourage you to take the outer worship folder home with you as it is complete with important contact information.

Who are you?

If you are new to Christ Church, we would like to know who you are so we can help you get involved in the life of our church. Please help us by 1) filling out a Connection Card and giving it to a pastor; 2) emailing Jose@christchurchberkeley.org or 3) texting your name and email address to 510-295-5348.

Connection at Christ Church - Sunday, Aug 23, 12:15pm Berkeley / 6:45pm Rockridge

If you are new to Christ Church, Connection at Christ Church is a wonderful opportunity for you to learn more about our purpose, vision, and mission, as well as how to best participate in the life and ministry of our church. We respectfully ask that you RSVP on the website at least one week out from the event so we can prepare for the appropriate number.

Newcomer Groups

Newcomer Groups are for those who have already attended Connection at Christ Church. They meet on Sundays for one hour over the course of four weeks. The pastors lead these groups in order to foster relationships among those who are new to Christ Church, to explore the vision and mission of the church, and to help you know how to become more involved. Please contact Jose Figueroa to RSVP for the next Connection: jose@christchurchberkeley.org.

Weekly Emails about Upcoming Events

Sign up on our home page for "This Week at Christ Church," a weekly or bi-weekly email about upcoming events in the life of our community. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Christ Church Pledge Campaign

Pledge Campaign Q & A - Sunday, June 28

Do you have questions about the Christ Church Pledge Campaign? Were you unable to attend the two informational meetings in the Center Street location in downtown Berkeley? Bart will be taking questions immediately following the worship services. Please do not hesitate to ask questions about the content and process of the Pledge Campaign.

Pledge Campaign Congregational Meeting - Thursday, July 2, 7-8pm

We hope that members and regular attenders of Christ Church will join us at College Avenue Presbyterian Church in Rockridge to discuss the results and implications of the Christ Church Pledge Campaign and the Center Street location in downtown Berkeley. Childcare will NOT be provided.

Upcoming Events

For a complete listing of announcements and information, please visit our announcements page and website calendar at www.christchurchberkeley.org.

Sunday Community Meals

Please plan to stay after the service and join us for lunch in Berkeley or dinner in Rockridge this summer. Don't be surprised if you even see a taco truck outside church a few times. Prices will vary between \$7-10 per adult and \$4-5 per child.

Lunch in Berkeley: June 21, July 5, July 19, August 2

Dinner in Rockridge: June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9

Early Church History - Sundays, May 24 to June 28

What happened after Jesus ascended and the Holy Spirit descended? Does the history and tradition of the early church have anything to do with us today? Join us for a 6-week survey of the history of the church from Pentecost to the Council of Nicea and beyond. This one-hour class, taught by Jonathan St. Clair, will meet following the worship services.

Marriage Enrichment - Thursdays, June 4 to July 9, 6-8pm

Nearly married? Newly married? Lost track of how long you have been married? Whether you are currently in a strong relationship and want to make it even better, or you are having difficulties and need help, we hope this introductory seminar will enrich your marriage and help your relationship attain its highest potential. The Art and Science of Love is a groundbreaking workshop via DVD format, in which leading relationship experts Drs. John and Julie Gottman teach powerful information and tools for building and maintaining a loving and successful relationship. Read more at www.gottman.com/marriage/video_workshop. We will meet at College Avenue Presbyterian Church. Cost is \$30 per couple for materials and childcare. Please RSVP on the Christ Church website.

Vocare - Sunday, June 28, 6:30-8:30

Vocare is Latin for "calling." Our vocations are not incidental but integral to who we are as human beings. Join us as we explore the purpose, meaning, and significance of the work of our hands. Tables will be organized according to vocation (legal, medical/healing, technology, the arts, homemaking, etc.). Conversations will involve a spiritual dimension, though any and all friends are welcome to attend. Please ask questions or RSVP to bart@christchurchberkeley.org. We will meet in the Coffee Room immediately following evening worship (5951 College Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618). Dinner will be served at a cost of \$7.00 per person; childcare will not be provided.

Eat, Pray, Sing - Thursday, July 16, 6:00-8:00pm

Please join us at College Avenue Presbyterian Church for an evening of eating, praying, and singing. The eating will begin at 6:00pm; the praying and singing will begin at 7pm and will last one hour.

Out of the Ashes: A Project Peace Film Festival - Friday, July 31, 7 -10:30pm

Join us for a special evening at Gaia Arts Center (2120 Allston Way, Berkeley) as we screen four short films by Bay Area female filmmakers, followed by a panel discussion. Doors open at 7 PM, films begin at 7:30. \$10 admission includes drink and snacks; all proceeds benefit Project Peace East Bay and Oakland Elizabeth House. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.projectpeaceeastbay.org.

We Need You

Host a Community Group for Fall 2009

Do you have an apartment or house that will comfortably accommodate 8-12 people? Would you be willing to host a Community Group from mid-September through mid-December? This typically amounts to 3-4 nights a month. If you are able and willing, please contact jonathan@christchurchberkeley.org.

Help with Summer Sunday Operations

With many people traveling during the summer, we need extra hands to setup, serve, and breakdown during Sunday worship. Please show up in Berkeley at 9am and in Rockridge at 3:45pm and we will put you to work. Thank you!

Looking for Others in Your Season of Life?

Mom's Group - Wednesdays, 10-11:30am

Join us on Wednesdays as we alternate book discussions (College Avenue Presbyterian Church) and park play days (Willard Park). Please contact Hee Won Kim with any questions at heewonwang@yahoo.com or (510)735-7577.

Cornerstone (40+) - Monthly Gathering

These monthly gatherings are for folks 40+ who want foster relationships and think creatively about investing in the broader community. Please contact Diane Smith with questions at dianeessmith@earthlink.net.

Graduate Students & Young Professionals - Monthly Gathering

These monthly gatherings are for professionals and students who want to explore the Bay Area and connect with people at Christ Church and the broader community. Please contact Stu Rentz with questions at stuartrentz@yahoo.com.

Weekly Worship

Morning Prayer - 7:15 to 7:45am on Tuesdays & Thursdays

Join us for morning prayer based on a simple structure of The Book of Common Prayer. You may leave early as needed or stick around for coffee and conversation. We meet at the Christ Church Office (Tuesdays - 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley 94704) and St. Clairs home (Thursdays - 5945 Keith Avenue, Oakland 94618).

Community Group - Taking a break for the Summer

Joining a Community Group (15 weeks) is the best way to connect with other people at Christ Church and explore what it means to love God and neighbor. During the fall and spring, these groups of 8-14 people meet in apartments and homes throughout the Bay Area during the week to pray and help one another love God and neighbor. Please visit our Google map on the website to sign up for a Neighborhood Group nearest to you.

Next Teaching in this Series " The Prodigal God"

Title: The Father

Text: Luke 15:1-2; 11-32

Teaching Notes

Staff

Please contact office@christchurchberkeley.org to schedule an appointment with a pastor or to submit prayer requests, questions, or concerns for the Christ Church staff.

Rev. Bart Garrett	Lead Pastor
Rev. Jonathan St. Clair	Pastor of Spiritual Formation
Rev. Jose Figueroa	Pastor of Community Development
Rev. Eric Gilbert	Pastor of Worship Arts
Rev. Brent Webster	Pastor of Students (RUF at UC Berkeley)
Ann Elliston	Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Berkeley)
Emily George	Co-Director of Children's Ministry (Rockridge)
Kate Key	Administrator, Finance, Events
Anita Sunraj	Administrator, Office Manager

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