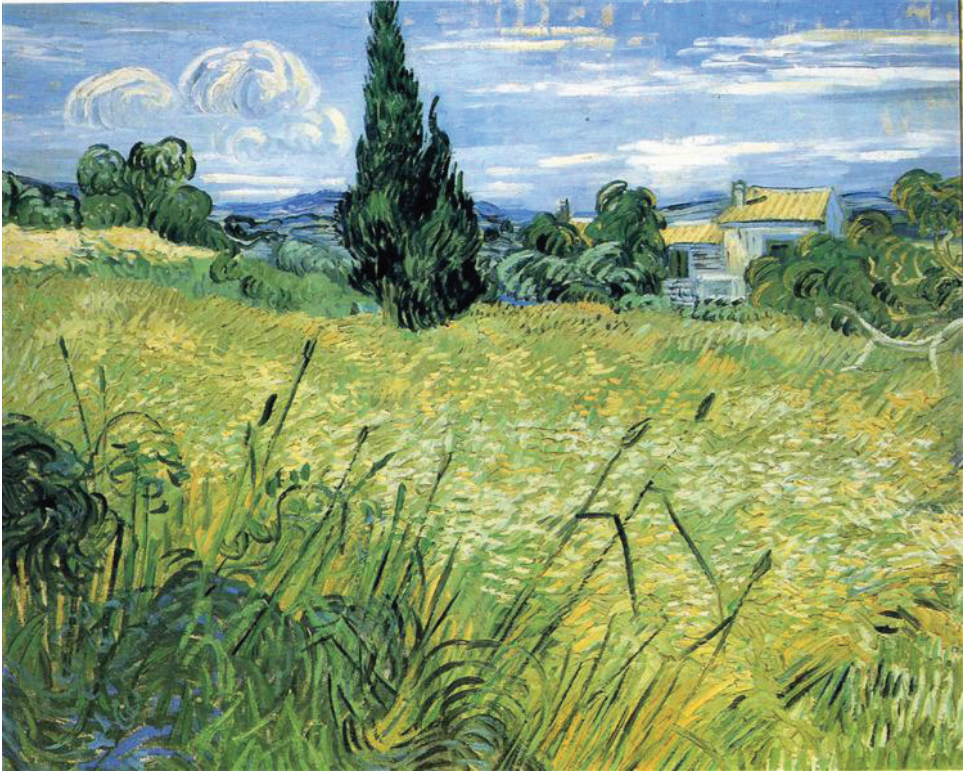


The Sixth Sunday of Easter

—
Rogation Sunday

May 5, 2024



Green Wheat Field with Cypress | Vincent Van Gogh | 1889 | Oil on canvas

“You did not choose me, but I chose you
and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit
and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you
ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.”

John 15:16

Welcome to Church of the Lamb

We're glad you've chosen to worship with us this morning! Please join us for coffee and bagels after the service. We would love to get to know you.

Children at Church

We provide childcare for ages 0–3: Ages 0–20 months in the garage atria (attached to the parsonage on site) and toddlers in the church office (parsonage walk out basement). You may visit these spaces with children or leave them in the care of our volunteers. Pick up children during The Peace (page 8 of this worship guide) so they may receive Eucharist with the congregation. All children join the full service on Family Worship Sundays, the last Sunday of each month.

How to Get Involved

Visit our welcome table for documents about the life of our church: how to get involved with a parish group, the way we disciple children, and various volunteer opportunities.

Liturgy

We use the liturgy (order of service) from the Anglican Church of North America's *Book of Common Prayer* (2019). Congregational responses are indicated in ***bold italic***.

We worship with our voices by speaking and singing. We worship with our ears and minds by listening. You may also see people worship with their bodies as a sign of reverence and adoration of God. While some find it meaningful to worship in this way, there is no pressure to take part in these practices.

Bowing and turning the body (↓ ↑): Some bow or turn as the cross is carried down the aisle at the beginning and end of the service and when the Gospel is read. We do not honor the cross itself, but recognize it as a symbol of our Lord who freely gave his life for us in love.

Crossing oneself (†): Some move the hand from forehead to chest and then to each shoulder at mentions of the Trinity or at other special moments in the service. This wordless prayer of reverence acknowledges that we have been sealed with the Holy Spirit in Baptism and belong to God. Before the reading of the Gospel, one may make small crosses with the thumb on the forehead, lips, and heart. In doing this we pray, "May the Lord be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart." This indicates a desire for the words and life of Jesus to infuse all that we think, say, feel, and do.

Kneeling: During confession, the deacon invites the congregation to kneel as a sign of our humility before God. Kneeling is also appropriate during the prayer of consecration of the bread and wine as a sign of humility and gratitude to God for his gift of himself to us.

Please stand.

All Creatures of Our God and King

David Crowder, William Henry Draper, Brent Milligan, & St. Francis of Assisi.
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All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise him, O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

And all ye men of tender heart
Forgiving others, take your part
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear
Praise God and on him cast your care
O praise him, O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship him in humbleness
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, three in One
O praise him, O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Collect for Purity

A collect is a traditional form of prayer meant to bring together, or "collect" God's people with a common focus on the Lord and his work.

Let us pray.

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 Law of God

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 22:37-40

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

For the Beauty of the Earth

Conrad Kocher & Foliott Sandford Pierpoint. Public Domain.

For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies

Lord of all to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r
Sun and moon and stars of light

For the Church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love

For the martyrs' crown of light
For thy prophets' eagle eye
For thy bold confessors' might
For the lips of infancy

For thyself best gift divine
To the world so freely giv'n
For that great, great love of thine
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye, heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Amen

The Collect of the Day

There is a different collect for each week of the year. These prayers correspond with liturgical seasons (like Christmas and Lent) that help us enter into the life of Christ. During the rest of the year (Ordinary Time), we pray more generally for the well-being of the Church and ourselves.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word of the Lord

We remain seated during the reading of the Old and New Testaments and the psalm to represent our willingness to live under and by the Scriptures God gave to us. During the Gospel reading, we turn to face the deacon, Gospels, and the cross as they move toward the center of the room, reminding us that Christ stands among us through his Incarnation.

Isaiah 45:11–13

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 33:1–8, 17–21

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous;

it is fitting for the just to be thankful.

Praise the LORD with the harp;

sing praises unto him with the ten-stringed lute.

Sing unto him a new song;

make skillful melody and cry aloud with joy.

For the word of the LORD is true,

and all his works are faithful.

He loves righteousness and true judgment;

the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made,

and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth.

He gathers the waters of the sea together, as in a heap,

and lays up the deep, as in a treasure house.

Let all the earth fear the LORD;

stand in awe of him, all you that dwell in the world.

...

Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear him,
and upon those who put their trust in his mercy,
To deliver their soul from death,
and to feed them in the time of famine.

Our soul has patiently waited for the LORD,
for he is our help and our shield.

Our heart shall rejoice in him,
because we have hoped in his holy Name.

Let your merciful kindness, O LORD, be upon us,
as we have put our trust in you.

↓ **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; ↑ as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

1 John 4:7–21

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Celtic Alleluia

Fintan O'Carrol & Christopher Walker. CCLI License 11352171.

Alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia

The right hand of God raised me up
The hand of the Lord has triumphed
I shall never die—I shall live
Telling his deeds

Alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia

John 15:9–17

Before the Scripture is read:

††† The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
↓ **Glory to you, Lord Christ.** †

After the Scripture is read:

The Gospel of our Lord.
↓ **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** †

Alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia

Please be seated.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Please stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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 and the Son, 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.

The Prayers of the People

Dearly beloved, we learn from the Scriptures that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth and caused the sun to shine and the rain to fall, the plants to grow and the earth to give forth her increase. He is the giver of life in the seed, in the soil, and in the sowers. Then God said, let us make man in our image and let him have dominion over everything upon the earth. We are now assembled to ask God's blessing on the seed that has been planted, the soil that has been cultivated, and the sowers that labor, upon livestock, upon commerce and industry and all that labor to the service of God and for the good of mankind.

For Laborers, Commerce, and Industry

That you would give us skill and enterprise in husbanding the resources of the earth, that all your children may have meat enough;
We beseech you, good Lord.

That we may not seek to live by bread alone, but regard all our wealth and all our labor by the measure of the Word of God;
We beseech you, good Lord.

That you would give to all who labor pride in their work, a just reward, and joy both in supplying need and in serving you;
We beseech you, good Lord.

That the conscience of humanity may be so aroused that we shall no more eat the bread of oppression, but work together in friendship and justice;

We beseech you, good Lord.

That you would give us all a deeper sense of our membership one of another, so that the bonds of our economic life may be the expression of our fellowship in Christ.

We beseech you, good Lord.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give us all a right satisfaction in what we do, and a just return for our labor; 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.***

For Livestock, Animals, and the Natural World

Almighty God, creator of all that live, we give you thanks for all livestock and wildlife, and for all the animals you have gifted us for comfort and companionship, and we pray to you on their behalf.

That you would grant the livestock that feed and clothe us, and that share in human labor, health, fertility, and deliverance from disease and injury.

We beseech you, good Lord.

That you would cause those who raise and husband livestock to exercise right dominion over your creatures, treating them humanely and kindly that even these animals may show forth your goodness and glory.

We beseech you, good Lord.

That you would cause us to so steward your creation that the wild beasts of the fields, forests, waters, and skies would be blessed with abundant food and with habitat free from pollution and the effects of human sin.

We beseech you, good Lord.

That you would grant favor and blessing to those who are called to veterinary medicine and wildlife conservation so that they may flourish in their vocation to care for your creatures.

We beseech you, good Lord.

That you would bless all farmers and smallholders who raise and tend livestock with satisfaction in their work and a good return on their labor.

We beseech you, good Lord.

At this time, I invite you to pray aloud for the burdens and joys, the needs and thanksgivings that are in your heart.

...

O heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Confession of Sin

When we confess our sins to God, we are not groveling in guilt; we are acknowledging our sin and asking for the mercy and loving-kindness God desires to give to us.

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

If you are able, please kneel and confess your sins silently before God. In a moment we will confess our sins together.

...

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Only God can forgive sins. In announcing God's forgiveness, pastors obey Christ's command to his ministers to pronounce Christ's forgiveness on his behalf (John 20:23).

†Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand.

The Comfortable Words

“The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” *1 Timothy 1:15*

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Greet those around you with some version of these words: “The peace of Christ be with you.”

Please be seated.

The Offering

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” *Matthew 7:21*

But for You Who Fear My Name

Welcome Wagon. ©2008. CCLI License 11352171.

But for you who fear my name
The Son of righteousness will rise
With healing in his wings
And you shall go forth again
And skip about like calves
Coming from their stalls at last

You shall be my very own on the day that I
Caused you to be my special home
I shall spare you as a man
Has compassion on his son
Who does the best he can

Please stand.

Bless This Offering O Lord

Words and Music: Unknown.

Bless this offering O Lord
And let it multiply within your hands
Feed the hungry with the Bread of Life
And let us see your mercies
A taste of things in store
We offer up this sacrifice to you O Lord

The Sursum Corda & Sanctus

These parts of the service, when we praise God and prepare to receive Eucharist (Communion), are traditionally known by their Latin names: "sursum corda" (lift up your heart) and "sanctus" (holy).

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, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because the wonders of your Creation reflect your goodness and beauty; and your gifts of sun and rain, seed-time and harvest, manifest your constant love and care for all that you have made.

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:

Hosanna in the Highest

Gregory W. LaFollette. © 2018 Late Model Leadfoot Music. CCLI License 11352171.

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest
 Hosanna in the highest
 Hosanna in the highest
 And blessed is he who comes
 In the name of the Lord

The Prayer of Consecration

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. †Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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 Fraction

Silence.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, once for all upon the cross.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Ministration of Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the bread and wine. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest as you approach the altar. To receive wine or grape juice, you may choose to drink from the common cup or dip the bread into the cup. Grape juice is served on the right side (facing the altar).

Prayer ministers are under the portico at the side entrance if you would like someone to pray for you.

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.

Creator of the Stars of Night

©2022 The Soil and the Seed Project; J. M. Neale. CCLI License 11352171.

Creator of the stars of night
your people's everlasting light
O Christ, Redeemer of us all
we pray you hear us when we call

Hosanna
Hosanna
Hosanna
Hosanna

In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe
you came to save a ruined race
with healing gifts of heav'nly grace

When earth drew on to darkest night
you came, but not in splendor bright
not as a king, but the child
of Mary, virgin mother mild

At your great name, majestic now
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow
all things on earth with one accord
join those in heav'n to call you Lord

How Great Thou Art

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine. ©1949. CCLI License 11352171.

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made
I see the stars I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee
How great thou art, how great thou art!

And when I think that God his Son not sparing
Sent him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim "My God, how great thou art!"

The Lamb Has Overcome

Luke Morton. ©2011. CCLI License 11352171.

The Lamb has overcome
The Lamb has overcome
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

No grave could hold him down
No grave could hold him down
Up from the ground "He is risen!" was the sound
No grave could hold him down

At God's right hand is he
At God's right hand is he
Our perfect plea as he lives to intercede
At God's right hand is he

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Glory be unto his name

The table now is spread
The table now is spread
This wine and bread, broken body and blood shed
The table now is spread

The day is drawing near
The day is drawing near
He shall appear and will wipe away each tear
The day is drawing near

The Lamb has overcome
The Lamb has overcome
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

The Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, 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 forever. Amen.

The Blessing

All our problems,
We send to the cross of Christ!
All our difficulties,
We send to the cross of Christ!
All the devil's works,
We send to the cross of Christ!
All our hopes,
We set on the risen Christ!

†The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Lamb Has Overcome

Luke Morton. ©2011. CCLI License 11352171.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Glory be unto his name

The Lamb has overcome, the Lamb has overcome
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

The Commissioning

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Announcements

Alpha

We are excited to offer the world-renowned Alpha Course at Church of the Lamb over eleven Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. beginning June 12. Alpha was created to outline the core principles of the Christian faith. It is an ideal way to invite your friends and family to engage in non-threatening conversations about Christianity.

We provide a meal, thought-provoking video, and discussion groups with trained listeners/ facilitators that promote deeper conversation about the questions we all ask. We are currently building table host, hospitality, and prayer teams. How will you be involved? Who are you praying for? Who will you invite? More details coming soon. Contact Zoe@churchofthelamb.org.

Mark Your Calendar

Hall of Men | May 5 | 5:30 p.m.

T3 (Women's Gathering) | May 11 | 9-11 a.m.

Pentecost Party | May 19

Budget Proposal & Vestry Nominees Announcement | May 19

Membership Meeting (Budget & Vestry Vote) | June 9

Event Details | churchofthelamb.org/calendar

Newsletter Sign Up | Scroll to the bottom of the homepage at churchofthelamb.org, or email Kelly@churchofthelamb.org.



Church
of the Lamb

Mission

*To abide as disciples of Christ:
invited to rest & compelled to love.*

Values

Word & Sacrament

*We draw on our Anglican tradition to integrate Scripture,
Baptism, and Eucharist into our worship and lives.*

Hospitality

We extend the joyful welcome of the Father shown to us in Jesus Christ.

Family

*We believe that baptism binds us together as brothers and sisters
who engage in one another's lives.*

Beauty

*We revel in the loveliness present in our world,
believing it is a door into worship.*

Partnership

*We pursue the good of others and the proclamation of Christ
through our local and global relationships.*

Stewardship

*We labor for renewal in our lives and in God's good creation,
believing the Holy Spirit works in and through us.*

—

Pastor | Kevin Whitfield | kevin@churchofthelamb.org

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Director of Youth & Children's Ministry | Renee Velker | renee@churchofthelamb.org

Director of Spiritual Formation | Zoe Hansen | zoe@churchofthelamb.org

Director of Musical Worship | Taylor Fletcher | taylor@churchofthelamb.org

People's Warden | Debbie Bennetch | dbennetch@gmail.com

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DIOCESE of
CHRIST our HOPE