



**Being human,
Being love**

225 East Exchange Street
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www.christ-community.net

Christ Community Church is an open and affirming spiritual community. We are grateful to have you with us today. We invite you to introduce yourself to a staff member or Ministry Council host. Welcome!

Ian Lawton
Executive Minister, Teaching and Theological Inquiry

Bob Kleinheksel
Minister of Care and Social Justice

Ted Poulton
Director of Administration

Allison Rockey
Communications and Outreach Ministry

Brad Vander Ark
Audio/Visual and Online Ministry

Andrea Dumbrell
Office Manager

Roger Schuring
Facility Maintenance

Jacqueline Rose Fisher
Director of Fine Arts

Kim Bazzy
Children's Ministry

Chad Beyer
Youth Ministry

Barb Kelly
Nursery Care

Brian Drabczyk
Sound Technician

Office Reception Hours
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Building Hours
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Living Authentically: Beyond Excuses

Sunday, July 12, 2009

Christ Community Church

Prelude

Dialogue sur les grands Jeux

Jacqueline Rose Fisher
by Francois Couperin

Welcome and news of the community

Bob Kleinheksel

Musical inspiration

I Take My Chances

Lisa Chorny
Mary Chapin-Carpenter

Gathered in community

Bob Kleinheksel

We gather together to take our places in life, in community and in our families. We gather together to affirm the importance of taking responsibility for our thoughts, words and actions; to identify, challenge and move beyond our excuses. We gather together to affirm, encourage and commend each other to live fully in a spirit of excitement, commitment, responsibility, authenticity and freedom.

One: I seek strength and instead
All: receive challenges that make me strong.

One: I seek wisdom and instead
All: receive experience that makes me wise.

One: I seek prosperity and instead
All: receive grace and grit that keeps me moving forward.

One: I seek courage and instead
All: receive challenges that make me resilient.

One: I seek love and instead
All: receive people who teach me what love is.

One: I seek favors and instead
All: receive opportunities that prove my resourcefulness.

Participants:

Teacher

Ian Lawton

Liturgist

Bob Kleinheksel

Marji Juhl

Organist

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

Musician

Lisa Chorny

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Sound booth

Brian Drabczyk

Video cameras

Brad Vander Ark

Ushers

Kevin Baldus, captain

Steve Alward

Ryan Cotton

Paul Crowell

David Dean

Harvey Hammond

Ted Poulton

Cathy Saurman

Vic Wilhelm

The blue team ushers next Sunday.

C3 Kids news

This morning kids are invited downstairs for our Summer Kids program beginning at 10:00 a.m.

C3 Youth news

C3 Youth Service Trip: We will be going to Chicago from Thursday, July 23 - Sunday, July 26 to serve meals to the hungry and help in other ways. Of course we'll take some time to enjoy the great City of Chicago. Contact Chad or the office for more information on attending or chaperoning.

***Congregational song**

O For a World

*O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.*

*O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.*

*We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.*

*The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
We grow and learn, including all and celebrate surprise.*

tune: Azmon, text: Miriam Therese Winter

Readings

A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and must go out and see it; I pray you have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.'

The servant reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' The servant did what he had been asked and still there was room. The master then said to the servant, 'Go to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.'

— Luke 14:16-23

"There was a child went forth every day,
And the first object he looked upon and received with,
Wonder or pity or love or dread, that object he became,
And that object became part of him for the
Day or a certain part of the day....
Or for many years or stretching cycles of years."

— Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

"So watch what you look upon. Even more significantly, don't create a reward system of excuses to defend, pity, or dread. This is a great time to remember this thought, which I frequently repeat: When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.

— Wayne Dyer, *Excuses Begone!*

Prayer

Bob Kleinheksel

Musical inspiration

Only Love

*I have sailed a boat or two along the wild blue
Yonder to dreams that rarely come true
As far as I can see from this island of green
I can put my trust in just one thing*

*Only love sails straight from the harbor
And only love will lead us to the other shore
And out of all the flags I've flown, one flies high and stands alone. Only love.*

*Peaceful waters, raging sea, and it's all the same to me
I can close my eyes and still be free
When the waves come crashing down, and thunder rolls around
I can feel my feet on solid ground*

Roger Murrah and Marcus Hummon, copyright 1993, Murrah Music Corp.

Sermon

Divine Abundance - Eradicating Self-Sabotage

Ian Lawton

Offertory

32 Flavors

by Ani DiFranco as performed by Alana Davis

*I am what I am
I am 32 flavors and then some
Taking my chances as they come
I am 32 flavors and then some
I'm nobody but I am someone*

*Blessing

May the love which overcomes all differences
Which challenges feeble rationalizations
Which reconciles all who are separated
Which puts to rest all excuses and fears
Be in us, with us and be made known through
All we say, think and do. Amen.

*Postlude

Caprice sur les grands Jeux

Jacqueline Rose Fisher
Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

Offering

This is a community-led organization that relies primarily on the support of individuals. Donation envelopes are available in the pews. For your convenience, we invite you to join the vast majority of our members who give regularly via automatic checking withdrawal, credit card, and online donations. Indicate your interest on a white pew card and place it in the offering plate and our office will contact you. Your generosity makes the work of this community possible.

Upcoming events and gatherings

Sunday, July 19

9:00 a.m. — Coffee and Conversation

9:00 a.m. — Awakenings gathering

10:00 a.m. — Gathering: Led by Ian Lawton

11:15 a.m. — Sermon Talk-Back

12:00 Noon — Reception for Lisa Chorny

10:00 a.m. Gathering: In Part Two on Wayne Dyer's recent work, *Excuses Begone*, Ian will speak on how to live at the highest levels of success, happiness, and health.

Church family news

We give our love, care and optimism to Leonard Bird and Jane Leonard as Leonard (Red) prepares for further radiation and chemotherapy.

We send our love and support to Tom and Sally Hammond as Sally has recently been diagnosed with brain cancer.

Our support and care is also extended to Liz Smith and her husband John as Liz is living with cancer.

Lisa Chorny has been a tremendous gift to this community. Over the recent years she has so generously shared her talents with us through her musical gifts, her love and care of children, her meditation practice, and her joyful spirit. Lisa will be greatly missed as she moves to California. Please join us next Sunday for a reception in the parlor.

Christ Community is an alternative to church as usual.

We live together in awe of Life,
connected by a sense of mystery that many call God.

Inclusive grace moves us to embrace all
with unconditional love and gracious acceptance,
celebrating ethnicity, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

Christ Community is a diverse, creative community
in background,
in faith perspective,
in public expression;
a blending of all the great spiritual traditions.

Christ Community finds a window to God in the face of Jesus
and also in the quest and insight of other faiths;
seeking dialogue and mutual enrichment in our pluralistic world.

We strive for greater justice and peace in the world
inspired by Jesus and social activists through the centuries
who challenged the status quo,

We seek to be the change we wish to see in the world,
respecting earth's patterns, and honoring wellness in its many forms.

Christ Community is a community of open mind and warm heart,
valuing the progressive unfolding of theology,
where all are encouraged
to honor their minds,
live their questions,
and embrace inner peace.

We invite all to join us in this exciting adventure of humanity.



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