

Christ Church Weekly

A newsletter for members and friends

Christ Church Parish • Friday, November 24, 2023

A Message from Fr. Samuel Torvend

Respecting the Dignity of Every Human Being

The worship program for the Thanksgiving Day Eucharist featured a painting by Henry Ossawa Tanner, a Black artist who became well-known in the late 19th century. Tanner produced many scenes from the life of Jesus but he also created portraits of Black Americans. In those portraits, he sought to affirm the dignity of his subjects.

In his painting, “The Thankful Poor,” he presents a grandfather and grandson seated at their own table, giving thanks before they eat. Keep in mind, then, that the backdrop to this painting was the horrific history of slavery and emerging Jim Crow laws that diminished the dignity of Blacks in America. In this respect, Tanner was *counter-cultural*, offering images of a peaceful, dignified, and prayerful people giving thanks to God in their own home.

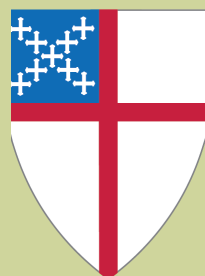


Upcoming Events

- Thanksgiving Potluck, **November 25**
- Veterans Village Prep, **November 26**
- CSLT Meeting, **November 28**
- Choir Rehearsal, NA Meeting, **November 30**
- First Friday Kids Night Out, **December 1**
- Advent Quiet Morning, Wellspring Ensemble Concert **December 2**
- **Advent I**
OPOP Meeting
Advent Lessons & Carols,
Monthly Reading Group, **December 3**
- Evening Prayer at Table, **December 6**
- Choir Rehearsal, NA Meeting, **December 7**
- **Advent II**
Adult Formation, Esoterics Concert, **December 10**
- Monastic Ecological Wisdom, **December 12**



SCAN ME



We strongly encourage masking during worship, mindful that we worship among people who need added protection. Masking not only protects us but also our neighbors.

NEED HELP??

To add to our prayer list, email the [Parish Administrator](#) before Friday, or the Rector from Friday through the weekend. If submitting a name other than your own, please ask permission from that person first. Names remain on the list for **four weeks**, unless renewed by the one who submitted them. In a pastoral emergency, please contact [Fr. Torvend](#).

Christ Church Prayer List

Our baptismal commitment calls us to pray for the world and the needs of our community, including those who are experiencing any sort of trouble, illness, or grief.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Bring comfort and healing to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit:
We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit: for Elin Gratton; Esther Kjesbu; Mark Morris; Chaundra Pospychala; Carolyn Guppy; Bill Garriott; Mary Smiley; Jeremy Bacon; Judy Cullen; Sonsaray; Robert Reeves; Cameron Frisch; Robyn Potter; Miri Hindes; and Dick Gregory.

We commend to your mercy those who have died:
James Harris; and the many who have perished in Gaza, Israel, and South Sudan.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:
St. Dunstan's, Shoreline • St. David Emmanuel, Shoreline

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:
The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma *Weekly* Newsletter

The Rev. Samuel Torvend, Priest for Worship, Adult Formation, and Pastoral Care
Deborah Hope Breneman, Editor/Design and Layout. Photo Credit: King Schoenfeld.
The *Weekly* is a publication of Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma.

Please visit our website at Christchurchtacoma.org to connect to newsletter links and previous editions.

Christ Church Calendar

To submit an article to the *Christ Church Weekly*, contact the [Parish Administrator](#).
Articles must be submitted by Tuesdays to be included in the Friday edition, and may be edited.
We never share your information outside the church family.

Land Acknowledgement We gather at 310 North K Street. Let us give thanks to the Creator for the Puyallup and Nisqually people on whose ancestral land this church and many of our homes stand. Their descendants live among us still. For their wise stewardship of the creation, we offer our gratitude. May we never forget that their land was taken by force and broken treaty.

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Worship and Formation

The Feast of Christ the King, the Reign of Christ

On Sunday, November 26, we join millions of Christians throughout the world in marking the end of this year of grace as we celebrate the Reign of Christ. On the following Sunday, we begin the beloved season of Advent. The gospel reading for the Reign of Christ is Matthew 25:31-46. Take a look at this reading before coming to church: it has served as the charter of Christian social action for close to 2,000 years.

November 26 also serves as the Ingathering of Pledges that will sustain our budget in the coming year. If you have not returned your pledge card to the parish office or placed it in an offering plate, bring it with you to church.

You bring forth wine to the gladden the heart

Living in a wine culture, the psalmist knew that wine is a gift from God, a gift to be used wisely and joyfully. It is also our spiritual drink through which we encounter the Presence of the crucified and risen Christ and receive the spiritual energy he offers us. On **Sunday, November 26**, bring a bottle or two of **ruby port** to church: our annual gathering of the fortified wine we use in the holy communion.

Click [here](#) for Fall and Winter Adult Formation Schedule.

Advent Quiet Morning: An Early English Advent

Saturday, December 2, 10 AM to 12 Noon

Change of venue to Trinity Chapel

During the weeks of Advent, our Anglo-Saxon spiritual ancestors sang, prayed, and spoke of Christ as the hero and the precious stone (an inspiration for JRR Tolkien's *The Hobbit*). They spoke of the Blessed Virgin Mary as "the noble woman." In this Quiet Morning, we consider how their medieval English Advent sheds light on our

American keeping of this beloved season. Three short presentations with each followed by silence and stillness for meditation, prayer, writing in one's journal, or taking a meditative walk with Anglo-Saxon Christian artwork. Listen for the Anglo-Saxon playing of the O Antiphons as you enter the church. Free and open to all. Donations will be gladly re-

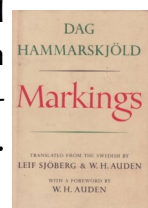
ceived at the door. Artwork: "Virgin and Child," The Benedictional of St Æthelwold, 963 AD.



Monthly Reading Group Sunday, December 3

6:30 pm

The Monthly Reading Group will meet at 6:30pm at the home of Don and Wanda Johnson to discuss *Markings* by Dag Hammarskjöld. Questions? Contact [Don Johnson](#).



Community



Soaring to new heights
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD

Pledges Received so far: 39

Total Amount: \$209,600

Goal: \$400,000

Christ Church Parish
Thanksgiving
P O T L U C K
November 25th | 4:00 PM
Wells Hall



Sign up in the Narthex and bring a side dish or dessert.
Turkey, gravy, and beverages provided.

Community

Veterans Village Meal Prep

Sunday, November 26

Following 10:30am service

We will be cooking our monthly meal for the vets living at FOB Hope on **Sunday, November 26**, and could use a few helping hands. We figured that they would be done with turkey by Monday, so we went in a different direction and will be making lasagna! Since the meat sauce has to simmer for 1.5 hrs, this is a great opportunity for those attending the 8:30 service to help out as I will be making the meat sauce after the 8:30 service. Then, after the 10:30 service, we will be assembling the lasagnas. Come join us!

~Deacon Donna Arellano



CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

We Are Called to Know the Earth

"Know that wisdom is sweet for your soul;
if you find it, there is a future for you
and your hope will never be cut off."

– Proverbs 24:14

Agriculture provides much of the traditional language of the life of faith. The rhythm of the seasons – from seed time to harvest – is woven into the language of the spirit. The language of farming is the material of Jesus' teaching. The good farmer knows – intimately knows the seasons, the soil, the plants and animals, and the weather – knows when and how to work with nature to yield its bounty in harmony with God and creation. The good farmer lives and breathes creation care.

Today we are no longer farmers who must live so intimately with the workings of creation to

put food on the table. Yet we must take the same responsibility to intimately know God's creation – so that we can successfully care for it. God's call to creation care began at the beginning: God placed humans in the garden to serve God by caring for it (Genesis 2:15).

Like the farmers of old, we must learn the workings of creation in order to care for creation for the flourishing of the kingdom. In our time, intimacy with the ways of the earth is an integral part of our intimacy with the ways of God. How can we fulfill this responsibility to know?

~Don Johnson

ECHOES: Music of Loss and Love

Saturday, December 2, 2023

6:20PM - Pre-concert Talk

7:00PM - Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma

Tickets: \$20 presale -

\$25 @ door, Students FREE

<https://store.wellspringensemble.org/>

ECHOES
Music of Loss and Love

DEC 2ND: SATURDAY
Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma
6:20PM: Pre-Concert Talk
7PM: Concert

DEC 3RD: SUNDAY
Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church, Seattle
3:20PM: Pre-Concert Talk
4PM: Concert

TICKETS: \$20 PRESALE - \$25 @ DOOR, STUDENTS FREE

WELLSPRING ENSEMBLE
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Book signing and presentation

Tuesday, December 12

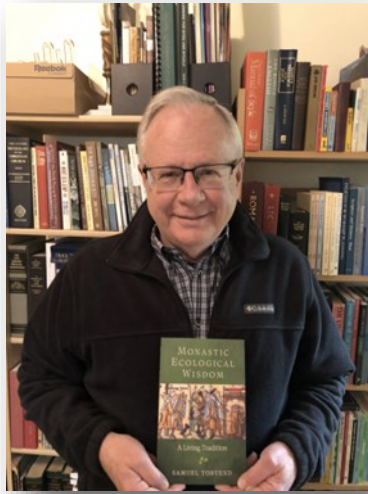
7 PM in Wells Hall

Greening Practices

From the Monastery to Us

Join Fr. Torvend for a short presentation on his latest book, *Monastic Ecological Wisdom: A Living Tradition*, the first book published in English that reveals how monastic environmental practices can help us live in harmony with the natural world.

And to add to this festive moment, adult beverages and treats will be served. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at \$20. Bring that Jackson with you!



Update on Sound System and live stream listening tips

The assisted listening system seems to be working OK on the FM receivers. Ask an usher if you need one. It will be awhile before the app-based portion is live.

The livestream has not been up to standards these last few weeks. Various issues have come into the mix. One week Google/YouTube was being difficult, and the stream would not properly start. When something like that goes sideways, it distracts, and the timing of the audio and video suffers.

With the changes in the audio in the sanctuary, there are changes in how the mix is done. Changing it up after some 80+ streams increased the difficulty level. If a missed cue happens, there is a delay in getting the video shot changed, or a missed unmuting of the microphones. It all should flow better as it becomes familiar.

Now for the tips for listening at home. The stream is set up to limit dynamics between the spoken word and the choir and organ and congregational parts. However, if there is a quieter organ piece or the choir is singing softly, it will be quieter on the stream. The presenters mics will come through louder and more distinct than the past (except maybe for the Gospel reading when a mic can't be used).

1. If you listen using only your phone or tablet or laptop speakers:
 - a. This will be the most difficult way to hear the full audio spectrum of the organ and choir. There is also a chance that you will not be able to turn the sound on the device loud enough to hear everything. Using a Bluetooth powered speaker or headphones would improve your experience.
2. If you are on headphones / earbuds etc ...
 - a. You should be able to hear most everything without changing the volume too much. We do have quiet periods followed by full volume in a few places in the service, so that may be startling.
3. If you have a laptop or other computer with wired or wireless Bluetooth external powered speakers:
 - a. This would be a good option especially if you have had issues hearing in the past with just your internal laptop or tablet speakers.
4. Smart TV with YouTube app
 - a. This all depends on the quality of the internal TV speakers. Many TV models may not be loud enough, or have the clarity to hear the spoken word. Again, using external speakers will improve your experience.

We do read all input concerning the stream. We have taken steps when possible to improve your experience. I hope these tips will help too.

~Winfield Giddings





✦
✦ **Save the** ✦
Date

✦ Celebrate Fr. Samuel Torrend ✦
✦ **FRIDAY, JANUARY 12** ✦
5:00PM - 8:00PM ✦
✦ details to follow ✦

The Daily Office at Christ Church

◇ Monday 9:00am*
Morning Prayer

◇ Tuesday 7:30am*
Lectio Divina

◇ Thursday 7:30am*
Morning Prayer

*zoom link available
at
christchurchtacoma.org/calendar

Worship at Christ Church

Sunday Worship at Christ Episcopal Church, Tacoma November 26, 2023

8:30am Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
10:30am Holy Eucharist in the Church and



[Bulletin for 10:30am](#)

Christ Episcopal Church

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO:

