

The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 22, 2024, 8:00 a.m.
The Holy Eucharist - Renewed Ancient Text

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Rorate coeli

Yon

Advent Candle Lighting and Prayer

The fourth Advent candle is the Mary and Joseph Candle, a symbol of the blessed Virgin Mary who bore Christ Jesus into the world, and of the love and protection that Mary and Joseph gave to Him.

Prayer:

God our Father, the angel Gabriel told the Blessed Virgin Mary that she was to be the mother of your Son. Though Mary was afraid, she responded to your call with joy. Help us, whom you call to serve you, to share with her in your great work of bringing to the world your love and healing. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Light who is coming into the world. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

Comfort, comfort ye my people

Hymnal 67

1. Com-fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
2. Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near,
3. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain;

com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.
call - ing us to new re - pent - ance since the king - dom now is here.
let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits His ho - ly reign.

Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 let the val - leys rise to meet Him, and the hills bow down to greet Him.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus!**

Collect for Purity *(in unison)*

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 Summary of the Law

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 a 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*

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. **Christ, have mercy upon us.** Lord, have mercy upon us.

Song of Praise*O come, O come, Emmanuel (v. 5-6)*

Hymnal 56

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.** Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *(all be seated)*

Isaiah 52.7-12

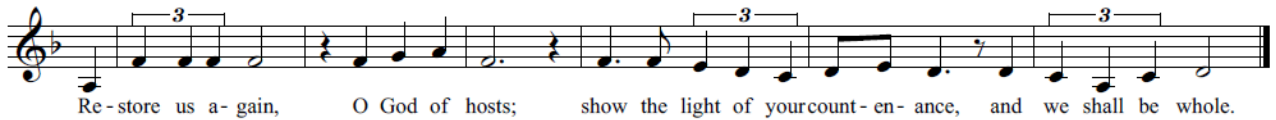
How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. Depart, depart, go out from there; touch no unclean thing; go out from the midst of her; purify yourselves, you who bear the vessels of the LORD. For you shall not go out in haste, and you shall not go in flight, for the LORD will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual *(all remain seated)*

Psalm 80



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that lead Joseph like a sheep;
show yourself also, you that sit upon the cherubim.
Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us. (To Antiphon)

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people that pray?
You feed them with the bread of tears
and give them plenteous tears to drink. (To Antiphon)

You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
And so we will not turn back from you;
O let us live, and we shall call upon your Name. (To Antiphon)

Second Reading

Hebrews 10.1-10

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ^[a] came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(all stand)

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 2.8-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon Sermon Series: Light in the Darkness – The Call to Worship

Nicene Creed (*all stand and recite in unison*)

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

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.

Prayers of the People *(please kneel)*

The Deacon says:

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer."

Please offer your prayers this morning, either out loud or silently.

The Celebrant concludes with the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession *(in unison)*

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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.

Absolution

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.**

The Comfortable Words

Hear the Word of God to all who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

Peace (*all stand*)

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with your spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Ave Maria

Arcadelt

Presentation Hymn (*all stand*)

Old One Hundredth

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

The Celebrant says:

1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: **And of your own have we given you.**

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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.

Sanctus et Benedictus

Hymnal S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, — Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, — hea - ven and earth are

full, — full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Prayer of Consecration *(all kneel)*

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 say:

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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Prayer of Humble Access (*in unison*)

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **grant us your peace.**

Celebrant says:

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.

Communion

All baptized Christians who profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to receive Holy Communion in this church. All who do not wish to receive are still welcome to come forward to the altar rail. You may cross your arms across your chest as an indication you do not wish to receive, and a prayer of blessing will be offered for you instead. We offer a separate chalice (cup) for intinction only (dipping) to the side near the piano.

Gluten-free wafers are available. If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, simply ask the priest.

Additional prayer is offered by our Altarside Prayer Team to the side of the altar, if you are in need of specific prayer, they would be happy to pray with you after you have received communion.

Communion Music

Post Communion Prayer *(in unison)*

Let us pray.

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 for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn*Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!*

Hymnal 438



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Dismissal*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.****Postlude***Creator alme siderum*

Yon

ANNOUNCEMENTS***The church office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.******If you missed Update Sunday, there is a letter from Fr. Chase at the back of the church.***

Christmas Season Schedule

December 24, 12:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 5:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service with Pageant
December 24, 7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service with Choir
December 25, 10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Service

Ring the Bells! Let's proclaim the birth of Jesus by the ringing of the bells on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day! Bring your own bells or borrow ours! This is a beloved and celebratory tradition that helps us remain focused on the wonderful gift that God has given us, His Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world!

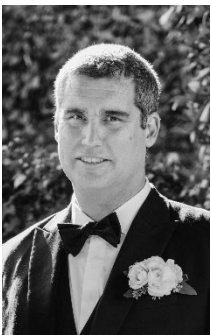
Drop-in Prayer TODAY between services! Are you in need of prayer? Drop in for time with our prayer ministers. **Location:** Prayer room in the church office. Questions? Contact Laura Mitchell at lpmitcho5@gmail.com.

Vestry Nominees – Adrienne Hott & John Zemaitis



Adrienne and her family have been part of CCA since it was founded. She is a second-generation member of our congregation. Adrienne and, her husband, Chris were both confirmed into the Anglican Church by Bishop Guernsey, both of their children (Addie and CJ) were baptized at CCA, and their dogs have been blessed MANY times (and needed it!). Over the last 17 years, Adrienne has served in many roles, her favorite being singing in the choir. She served in the first youth ministry when the church started, helped organize the kids choir several years ago, and is currently a lay reader and helps with the Ministry Partners.

She graduated from Wheaton College with a degree in History and has a Masters focused on management of non-profit organizations from the University of Denver. As a lifelong follower of Christ, and Anglican since joining CCA, Adrienne is very excited to have been nominated for the Vestry and would be honored to serve the congregation in this way.



John has been attending Christ Church Anglican since January 2009 and was confirmed at CCA. He is a Sunday school teacher in Children's Ministry, serving in the 2nd - 3rd grade class for the past two years. He also serves on the Hospitality team, often cooking for the big events. He is a graduate of ASU's School of Engineering and was employed in Nigeria between 2009-2020. John currently works in construction management. His parents, John and Helen Zemaitis attend CCA and so do his siblings Amy and Joe and their families. John loves the community of CCA, especially the Wednesday night dinners and classes. John appreciates that CCA is grounded in God's Word and the commitment to worship Jesus Christ as the one and only Lord and Savior. He would be honored to serve on the Vestry as a representative of the congregation.

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2025 | 9:15 am | Parish Hall

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025, between services, at 9:15 am. At the meeting, members will vote on the Vestry candidates.

If you have any questions about vestry nominations or the annual meeting, please contact the Parish Office at office@christchurchphoenix.org or 602.955.2040.

Year-End Giving

All donations made on Sunday, December 29, by law, must be credited toward 2024 donations unless the check is dated January 2025. If you intend to give towards your 2025 pledge at the end of the month, please be certain to date your check as of Wednesday, January 1, 2025.

All checks that are postmarked by December 31 with a December 2024 date on the check will be applied to the 2024 year.

The church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's so please be sure to get your 2024 donation completed by December 31. Questions contact Erin at ejones@christchurchphoenix.org

Epiphany Celebration

Saturday, January 4 | 4-7 PM | Lawn

Join us as we celebrate the culmination of the Christmas season with an action-packed Nerf Battle. This is sure to be fun for all ages! Nerf darts and goggles will be provided. Stay after the battle for dinner and the Epiphany Bonfire! All ages are welcome to join in on the fun!

Nerf Battle | 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

Dinner | 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Bonfire | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Next Baptism Opportunity

Sunday, January 12, 2025

On Sunday, January 12, we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord and it is a traditional time for the Sacrament of Baptism. If you or a loved one would like to be baptized, please contact Courtney at cfahsholz@christchurchphoenix.org by tomorrow, December 23.

Courageous Men of Friday Mornings

Fridays | 6:15 AM | Parish Hall | On break until January 10, 2025

Every week, we will explore twelve facets of Christian spirituality and delve into what it means to have a genuine relationship with God. We will take a comprehensive approach to deepening our faith by His grace. Each morning will start with Morning Prayer, followed by a teaching session and formation groups.

Adult Formation

Sundays | 9:15am

Adult Formation will begin on Sunday, January 12, from 9:15 - 10:15.

First Steps | Room 4 | In First Steps, the name speaks for itself. First Steps is the first step of our connection process here at CCA. Join Fr. Chase as you explore Christianity, Anglicanism, and life at Christ Church. This class covers: Nuts and Bolts of Liturgy, Anglicanism 101, and asks the question, “What is the Gospel?”

Via Catechesis | Room 7 | Via Catechesis is our journey through the Christian faith. This Spring, those who attended Via in Spring 2024 will complete the course, culminating in their confirmation or reception as members of Christ Church Anglican and the Anglican Church in North America.

Toddler Storytime

Toddler Storytime **will resume on January 17th!** Children 4 and under and their guardians are invited to join us for stories, songs, crafts, and snacks!

Children’s Sunday School will meet for the last time in 2024 today and **will resume in 2025 on January 12.**

Children’s Sunday School room assignments are as follows:

PreK-1st Grade | Room 8

2nd – 3rd Grades | Room 13

4th – 5th Grades | Room 11

Wednesday Nights at CCA – Resumes January 15th!

Schedule of the Evening – drop-ins are always welcome:

5:00-5:30 Choristers (ages 4 – 7th grade)

5:15-6:15 Dinner in the Parish Hall

6:15-7:30 Classes, Kid’s Club and Youth Group

Livestreaming

Our 10:30 a.m. service is now livestreamed. Subscribe to our YouTube channel @christchurchanglican8173 and you will receive notifications when the service is live or you can access the recorded sermon later.

DONATION OPTIONS

Flower Donations

If you would like to donate flowers in celebration or thanksgiving of a birthday, anniversary, or in memory of a loved one, etc., contact the church office at office@christchurchphoenix.org. A suggested donation for flowers is \$50. All donations are tax deductible.

Zelle Donations through Your Bank

Christ Church Anglican accepts online donations made via Zelle. If your bank uses **Zelle** (other bank versions of this type of payment are not yet available to us) as an online bill payment option you may send a donation to Christ Church Anglican by entering the following email giving@christchurchphoenix.org and the donation will be made directly to CCA's account with no extra fees. This is our favorite method of accepting online donations.

Online Giving through our Website

Credit Cards and PayPal donations are accepted through our website. Go to www.christchurchphoenix.org, select the "Giving" option at the top, and click on the Donate Online box. Note that donations made this way are subject to a 2.2% credit card fee and we do not receive the full amount.

US Mail

If you prefer to send a check via US Mail, please use the following address:

Christ Church Anglican
PO Box 10219
Phoenix, AZ 85064-0219