

MORNING PRAYER

ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRISTINE MERRITT, PRESIDING

August 2, 2026



THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED

OPENING PRAYER FOR PURITY AND COLLECT

PRESIDER: 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.

ASSISTANT: Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

CONFESSION

PRESIDER: Let us pray. Bound in love to the triune God, let us call upon the Lord of our salvation and recollect in silence those times when we have failed to live as beings created for love, either because of that which we have done or for that which we have failed to do.

*Examination of conscience:
What obstacles prevent me from loving fully and intimately?*

PRESIDER: Let us pray together then, to the God of Mercies.

PRESIDER & ALL: *Please join Presider on mute*

Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
 against one another, and against our Mother
 Earth.

Although you have made us incarnations of your
Love,
 we have not reflected your Divine Image in
 the world.

Although you have called us to intimacy in Christ,
we have shunned you in ourselves, in others,
and in your Creation.

Although you have poured upon us the Spirit of
freedom,

we have preferred our slavery to our
passions, greed, and complacency.

Turn to us Lord, even when our hearts turn away
from you.

Forgive us for the harm we cause to the innocent,
the vulnerable, the voiceless.

Forgive us for the harm we inflict
on the very planet that sustains us.

Instill in us a spirit of repentance.

Shake us from our complacency.

Move us to act in accordance with your Will
for the love of the planet and one another.

Awaken in us the hope of the Resurrection,
that recalling your boundless love for us
we may love boundlessly in return.

We ask this in the name of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

PRESIDER: ☩ Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

THE LESSONS

ASSISTANT: A reading from the Book of Genesis
[32:22–31]

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said,

“I will not let you go, unless you bless me.” So he said to him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Jacob.” Then the man said, “You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.” Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.” The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 17 [1–7,16] *Please join Presider on mute in a responsive reading.*

1 Hear my plea of innocence, O LORD;
give heed to my cry; *
***listen to my prayer, which does not come
from lying lips.***

- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; *
let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- 3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, *
melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; *
I have heeded the words of your lips.
- 5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; *
in your paths my feet shall not stumble.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; *
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me your marvelous loving-kindness, *
O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise up against them.
- 16 But at my vindication I shall see your face; *
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

THE EPISTLE

ASSISTANT: A reading from The Letter of Paul to the Romans [9:1–5]

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

PRESIDER: ☩ A reading from the Holy Gospel
According to Matthew [14:13–21]

Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.

When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said,



“This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.”

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

May the words of the Gospel be made flesh in us.

Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

KINDLY KEEP ALL MICS MUTED DURING SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Vincent Pizzuto



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

All are invited to sit in silent communion with one another. Presider will signal the end of our meditation after four minutes.

LECTIO DIVINA

All are invited to share a short few words, phrases, or themes from the sermon that speak to our hearts. We raise our 'yellow hands' when ready to speak and lower when finished. The Presider will call on us. We listen prayerfully to each one, but do not comment.

*When the Presider sees that everyone who wishes to speak has done so, the Presider says **Amen**. [We are invited to save further reflections to our Coffee with Jesus.]*

MUSIC SIGNALS THE END OF THE LECTIO DIVINA.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

ASSISTANT: Let us together proclaim our profession of faith, which has been handed down to us from ancient of days.

TÍRECHÁN'S CREED (from the Patrician Texts from the Book of Armagh, AD670) *Please join Assistant on mute*

Our God is the God of all,
The God of heaven and Earth,
The God of the sea and rivers,
The God of the sun and moon,
The God of all the heavenly bodies,
The God of the lofty mountains,
The God of the lowly valleys.
God is above the heavens;
And beneath the heavens.
Heaven and Earth and sea,
And everything that is in them,
Such is the abode of the Holy One.
God inspires all things,
gives life to all things,
stands above all things,
And stands beneath all things.
God enlightens the light of the sun,
strengthens the light of the night and the stars,
makes wells in the arid land and dry islands in the
sea,
And places the stars in the service of the greater
lights.

God has a Son who is co-eternal;
And similar in all respects;
And neither is the Son younger than the Father,
Nor is the Father older than the Son;
And the Holy Spirit breathes in them.

✠ And the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
are inseparable. Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

PRESIDER: ✠ Blessed be God, most holy, glorious,
and undivided Trinity.

ASSISTANT: And blessed be God's Kingdom now
and forever.

Amen.

PRESIDER: Lord, you taught us always to be
reconciled with our sisters and brothers. Let us
strive to be faithful to your law of compassion:

that we may forgive seven-times-seven, that we may love even our enemies, and bless those who curse us. And where we struggle Lord, let our earnest striving be enough for you, who sent your Son Jesus to be a healing balm of love. In His Name, O God, have mercy.

Amen.

PRESIDER: My sisters and brothers, the peace of Christ is with you!

ASSISTANT: And with your spirit.

PRESIDER: Let us embody Christ's peace for one another.

Presider will invite us into small groups for five minutes to get to know one another. If you are new to St. Columba's we welcome you. If you are a member already, please extend a warm welcome to those in your group.

Should you prefer to stay where you are and spend the next five minutes meditating alone, that's fine too!

BIDDING PRAYERS

PRESIDER: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Please pray responsively on mute, led by Presider.

PRESIDER: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Austin our Bishop in the Diocese of California, Sarah Archbishop of Canterbury, and for all bishops and other ministers, both lay and ordained;
For all who serve God and their neighbors.

For the special concerns of this congregation.

Silence

PRESIDER: For whom or for what else shall we pray?

All are invited to voice prayers before the community or offer them in the silence of your heart. [Unmute before speaking, then kindly mute again.] Prayer Response:

PRESIDER: God hear us,

ASSISTANT: ***God graciously hear us...***

PRESIDER: Lord God, hear the prayers of your people: those we have voiced in the presence of your Assembly, those we hold in the silence of our hearts, and those for which we have yet to find words.

In gratitude and love, we entrust ourselves to you who knows better than we the deepest needs of our hearts. In the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PRESIDER: Let us pray as Jesus taught:

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,
Forever and ever. Amen.

PRESIDER: Savior, Redeemer, Beloved of God, clothe us in your love, strengthen us to live gently on this earth, give us humility to see all we encounter as precious to you, and teach us to walk with kindness and patience this hour and always.

Amen.

PRESIDER: ☩ May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us and scatter the darkness from our paths; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Three-In-One and One-In-Three be upon us and remain with us always.

Amen.

ASSISTANT: My siblings in Christ, let us go forth into the world to love and serve the Divine and each other.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE REACHED OUT
TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY!**

ONLINE DONATIONS MAY BE MADE VIA THE **"GIVE"** BUTTON ON OUR
WEBSITE, OR CHECKS MAILED TO:

ST. COLUMBA'S INVERNESS

PO BOX 430
INVERNESS, CA
94937

VIRTUAL CHAPEL ONLINE OFFERINGS

IF YOU ARE NEWLY JOINING US

Please go to our website's VIRTUAL CHAPEL to access all of our
online offerings or to register your name and email to be
informed of our future offerings:

www.stcolumbasinverness.org

NEED PASTORAL ASSISTANCE?

Please Email Meredith Burrell

who can help direct your needs to the right person:

mburrell01@hotmail.com

ONLINE EVENTS

EVENSONG

August 6, 7pm

Led by Ann McChesney-Young.



FALL 2026 PORTRAITS OF CHRIST VII

Open for registration now

Thursdays, 11am–1pm

August 27–September 24



ST. COLUMBA'S SERMON RECORDINGS



NOON PRAYER

Weekly, Wednesdays, 12pm

Prayer, scripture study, meditation, and discussion, led by Mother Teri Waldron



IN-PERSON EVENTS

CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE CIRCLE

Tuesdays, 3:30–4:30pm

August 4: Praying in Color: Foundations, the Mystics Everyone Should Know, led by Anna Haight



SICK TO DEATH!

Geoff Hoyle's side-splitting
adaptation of Moliere!

Performances: September 5, 6, 7; 12 & 13 at 4pm

Our yearly theater in the Amphitheater begins the three days of the Labor Day weekend. Sharron Drake and company are doing something different this year: taking a break from Shakespeare to present Geoff Hoyle's brand-new translation and adaptation of *The Imaginary Invalid* by Moliere.

We will need ticket-takers, set-up and clean-up folks, food- and beverage-handlers, traffic directors, and of course our county-wide renowned bakers of lemon bars and brownies! We also need folks to get the ice and groceries.

There will be sign-ups on Sundays and online. You can also email me at akferrando@comcast.net if you have any questions. Any and all help is appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Here is the Kickstarter film for the play to whet your interest!



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Wednesdays, 7pm

Chapel

IONA LECTURE SERIES:

*Contemplating Climate Change
with Trevor Houser*

Sunday, September 20 at 1pm

Free and open to the public, wine and cheese
reception to follow



ST. COLUMBA'S VIRTUAL PLATE FOR YOUR DONATIONS



SAVE THE DATE

Diocesan convention, October 24, at Grace Cathedral, where St. Columba's will be instated as a parish

COFFEE WITH JESUS



Take few minutes to get your favorite morning beverage and return to us for coffee hour small group conversation.