

The Christian Essential Components

What are the 15 Christian Essential Components?

Christ Episcopal Church is on a mission to equip and empower people to love God, care for each other, and serve the world in the name of Christ. We believe each component represents the various ways in which people of all ages can explore, grow, and deepen their relationship with God, neighbor, world, and self. Each essential component is deeply rooted in scripture and in the fabric of our Christian identity and tradition.

**These scripture verses are not an exhaustive list but a good representation of the Christian essentials of Christ Church.*

LOVE GOD

Worship:

1 Chronicles 16:29-30 NRSV

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come before him. Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

Psalms 63:2-4 ESV

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

Psalm 100 NRSV

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Bible Study:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NRSV

“Scripture is the inspired Word of God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.

Romans 15:4 NIV

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.”

Hebrews 4:12 NRSV

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NRSV

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work

Deuteronomy 6:4-8 NRSV

Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart.

Psalms 119:103-105 NRSV

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Spiritual Practices: Acts 2:42 NRSV

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayer.”

Colossians 4:2 NRSV

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.

Hebrews 10:24-25 NRSV

Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Basics of Faith John 3:16 NRSV

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Hebrews 1:1-3 NRSV

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the world. He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful Word.”

1 John 4:9-10 NRSV

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Ephesians 2:8-9 NRSV

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast.

Stewardship:

1 Peter 4:10 NIV

“Each of you should use whatever gifts you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.”

Matthew 6:19-21 NRSV

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Malachi 3:10 NRSV

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

CARE FOR EACH OTHER

Gifts & Vocation

Jeremiah 29:11 ESV

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord.

Ephesians 4:1-3 NRSV

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

Romans 12:5-8 NRSV

We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Relationships

Hebrews 10:24-25 NRSV

Let us consider how to encourage one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

John 15:12-13 NRSV

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

Colossians 3:12 NRSV

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Health & Wellness

James 5:14 NRSV

Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:19 NRSV

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God.

1 Timothy 4:7-8 NRSV

Train yourself in godliness, for, while physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

Isaiah 40:29-31 NRSV

He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Care & Support

Philippians 2:4-8 NRSV

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

1 Corinthians 12:14, 26

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Romans 12:10 NRSV

Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

Hospitality & Fellowship

Hebrews 13:1-2 NRSV

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Romans 15:7 NRSV

“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”

Romans 12:9-13

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Matthew 25:38-40

And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

SERVE THE WORLD

Outreach & Mission **Micah 6:8** NRSV

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Mark 10:43b-45a NRSV

Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.

Matthew 28:19-20 NRSV

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Luke 10:1-3 NRSV

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way!

Charity

Matthew 25:34-36 NRSV

“Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.”

Matthew 25:40 NRSV

‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Acts 20:35 NRSV

“In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Hebrews 13:16 NRSV

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Justice & Advocacy

Psalm 106:3 NRSV

Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

Jeremiah 29:7 NRSV

Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

1 John 3:17-18 NRSV

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

Amos 5:24 NRSV

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.

Reconciliation

1 John 1:9 NRSV

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ephesians 4:32 NRSV

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Luke 6:37 NRSV

Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

Matthew 5:23-24 NRSV

So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

Colossians 1:27b-28 NRSV

The riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Training/Equipping Proverbs 19:20-21 NRSV

Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom for the future. The human mind may devise many plans, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will be established.

Ephesians 4:12 NRSV

To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Proverbs 22:6 NRSV

Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray.

Deuteronomy 5:1 NRSV

Hear, O Israel, the statutes and ordinances that I am addressing to you today; you shall learn them and observe them diligently

Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Proverbs 4:4-7 NRSV

He taught me, and said to me, 'Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live. Get wisdom; get insight: do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever else you get, get insight.

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