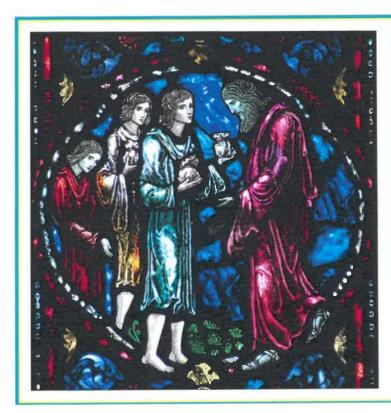
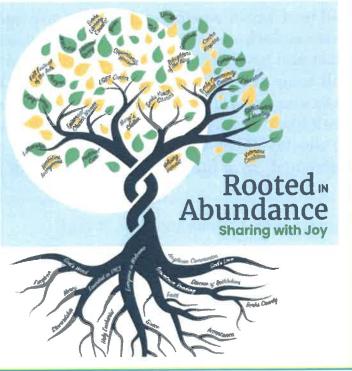
Christ Episcopal Church

Reading, Pennsylvania Christ is All and in All





25th Sunday after Pentecost Final Stewardship Sunday November 19, 2023 8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken) Page 6 10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung) Page 11



Today's Readings

The First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord GoD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church: We are happy to welcome you to our church and worship services. Here are some things that you may find helpful. If you would like to know more about us there are cards that you can fill out hanging in each pew. Please hand your completed card to an usher as you leave today. Please join us after the service in our Fellowship Hall (down the stairs near the front of the church and on your right at the bottom of the stairs) to get to know us better. The most readily accessible restroom is through the door near the front of the sanctuary. Once you go through that door turn right; the restroom is across from the elevator. Parking is available for free on the street on Sundays and in the M&T parking lot behind the church on the corner of Washington Street and Madison Ave.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Gather us together, O God, that we might share the prayers, intentions, and thanksgivings of our community. We are generous with our gifts Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

I ask your prayers for the Church, for all who worship God this day. For Fr Bryce, Kevin our Bishop, Michael our presiding bishop, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) and Church of the Redeemer, Sayre. We pray especially for this season in which we celebrate our stories of leadership and our support for mission. We are generous with our gifts of leadership, **Because we are Rooted in Abundance.**

I ask your prayers for our Nation and all nations; for refugees fleeing climate change and war; for conflicts of resources and land; for lawmakers and peacekeepers. We pray for a distribution of wealth that helps the poor and the marginalized. We especially pray for peace in the Holy Land and Ukraine. We are generous with our gifts of peace, **Because we are Rooted in Abundance.**

I ask your prayers for the sick, the lonely, the lost, and those who grieve. We remember those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now in silence or aloud. We are generous with our gifts of healing, **Because we are Rooted in Abundance.**

I ask your prayers for those who have died, those who are dying, and those who mourn. We especially remember today Mr. and Mrs. Matthias Roland, Mr. and Mrs. Solan Parkes and Luther and Dorothy Kunkle. We are generous with our gifts of support, **Because we are Rooted in Abundance.**

I ask for your remembrances of thanksgivings and blessings, for we are given time, talent, and treasure to share with the world. We pray especially for those celebrating this week: Sara Achenbach, Randall Fegley and Pam Young. We are generous with our gratitude, **Because we are Rooted in Abundance.**

Celebrant: God of Abundance, hear the prayers of your people. May we who are blessed by so much wealth and wisdom, share our works with a world in need, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Cover image: Stained glass of The Parable of the Talents and our Stewardship Campaign image 4



Sunday School: 9:00 - 9:50; Catechesis (pre-school - first grade): room A1 Joyful Path (second grade - sixth grade): room A2; Live and Learn- a weekly class for middle and high school students. Room A3 Nursery: 9:00 - 11:30—Infant to pre-school across from Parish Hall. The nursery is available from Sunday school to Coffee Hour for ages infant to age 5. Children are free to learn, play, and explore in a safe, child-friendly environment.



Did you forget your checkbook this morning? Have you been wanting to set up a pledge but keep forgetting? Life just got a whole lot easier: scan the QR code on your phone and it will take you directly to our giving homepage.

Christ Episcopal Church Reading, PA

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Page numbers on the right side of this bulletin are from "The Book of Common Prayer" (BCP) - the black book in the pew racks.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please Stand

The Acclamation and Response

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: We are Rooted in Abundance; People: and we are sharing with joy.

The Collect for Purity (said together)

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 Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord have mercy
People: Christ have mercy
Celebrant: Lord have mercy

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90: 1-8 (read responsively by whole verse)

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.

You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth."

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night.

You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.

For we consume away in your displeasure; we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed 358

The Prayers of the People (page 4 of this bulletin)

Intercessor: We are generous...

People: Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Confession of Sin 360

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The Blessing of our Stewardship Pledges and our Food Ingathering (page 10)

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A, page 361)

The Sanctus 362

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 363

The Lord's Prayer and Breaking of the Bread

364

The Invitation to Communion and Communion

The Post Communion Prayer

All: God of Abundance and Grace, by the provision of this feast, the Sacrament of our Savior, Jesus Christ, you have united us together in purpose and place. May we who have gathered and broken bread now share the living Word, being rooted in Abundance; serving you with joy and steadfast faith, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant May the God of abundance in whom we are rooted, give us the courage and the confidence to share with joy, and the blessing...

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

8:00 AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Communion Assistants
Ellen Sunderman and Rick Wolf

Lector and Intercessor Chris Spohn Stewardship Speakers
Diane Morris and Ashleigh Hoelscher

Usher
Ellen Sunderman and Chris Spohn

Altar Guild
Linda Jones (Captain) Linda Lacey
and Brittany Underkofler

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #91



Music: From Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Prayer over the Pledges: Gracious God, we give thanks for these gifts, the promises of our members for giving in the year to come. We pray that you inspire us with the example of your freely-given love to serve our neighbors, heal the world, and strengthen our community. Bless these intentions, pledges, and promises of our wealth, works, and wisdom for the needs of our church, through our God of abundance and grace, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer over our Food Ingathering: Almighty God, we thank you for making the earth fruitful, so that it might produce what is needed for life: Bless these gifts and those who brought them today; bless those who work in our fields and those who prepare our food; and bless the Veterans Coalition of Pennsylvania and the work that they do to provide and care for our veterans; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Christ Episcopal Church Reading, PA

10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Page numbers on the right side of this bulletin are from "The Book of Common Prayer" (BCP) - the black book in the pew racks. Service music (preceded by "S") is located at the FRONT of The Hymnal 1982 (blue book).

Organ Prelude Now Thank We All Our God (Cantata 79)

J. S. Bach

The Liturgy of the Word

Please stand

Processional Hymn 290 Come, ye thankful people, come

The Acclamation and Response

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: We are Rooted in Abundance; People: and we are sharing with joy.

The Collect for Purity (said together)

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.

Kyrie (see page 10)

Healey Willan

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you: People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Hymn Rooted in Abundance (see page 5 of this bulletin)

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed 358

The Prayers of the People (page 4 of this bulletin)

Intercessor: We are generous....

People: Because we are Rooted in Abundance.

Confession of Sin 360

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements and Children's Message

The Offertory Anthem Never Weather-Beaten Sail

Charles Wood

's weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore, Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more: than my weary sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast. O come quickly dearest Lord and take my soul to rest! Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high paradise, Cold age not there our ears, nor vapour dims our eyes; glory there the sun outshines; whose beams the blessed only see. Oh come quickly glorious, Lord, and raise our sprite to thee!

Presentation Hymn 362 (vs 1) Holy, holy, holyy

Holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity.

The Blessing of our Stewardship Pledges and our Food Ingathering (page 10)

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A, page 361)

S120

Celebrant: The Lord be with you: People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts:

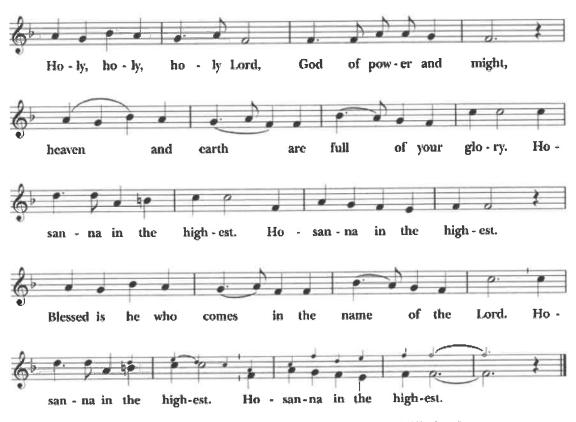
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God: People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The celebrant continues with the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

The Sanctus Richard Proulx

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #125

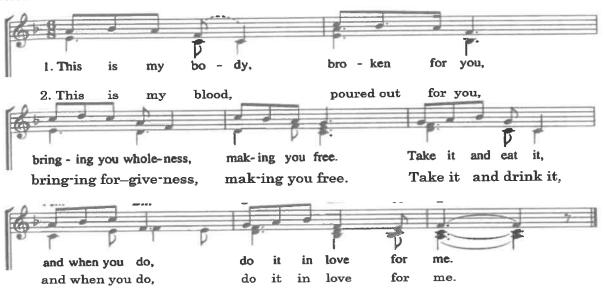


Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 363

The Lord's Prayer

The Fraction Anthem



Text: Jimmy Owens; Tune: In love for me by Peter Jacobs, arr. Christopher Tambling

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The Invitation to Communion

Everyone is invited to receive. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail. There will be two chalices for receiving: the first to drink from and the second chalice is for intinction (dipping the host instead of drinking).

The Agnus Dei

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #158



Music: From Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena, Healey Willan (1880-1968), By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Communion Hymn 291 We plow the fields and scatter

If Eucharistic ministers are being sent forth today to take the sacrament to people at home, the following prayer is said after Communion:

Celebrant: In the name of God, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen

The Post Communion Prayer

All: God of Abundance and Grace, by the provision of this feast, the Sacrament of our Savior, Jesus Christ, you have united us together in purpose and place. May we who have gathered and broken bread now share the living Word, being rooted in Abundance; serving you with joy and steadfast faith, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant May the God of abundance in whom we are rooted, give us the

courage and the confidence to share with joy, and the blessing...

The Closing Hymn 432 O praise ye the Lord

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Choral Improvisation on Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Swinging Into Christmas - Friday, December 1 at 7:30 PM, Trinity Lutheran Church

Trinity is thrilled to host the Let's Dance big band as they present "Swinging into Christmas!" Trinity member Charlie Randazzo is the musical director of the band and David Himes plays saxophone with the group. Umbrellaed under the Rändel Wolfe Concert Series, the event will partner with the Salvation Army Reading Citadel. The concert is free and an offering will be received to help them to continue their excellent work in our community.

10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Organist and Choir Director
James Wilson

Verger Kathleen Brantman

Gospel Book Bearer Wayne Fanning

Lector Victoria Wilson

Ushers Linda Jones, Christine Keeler and Jack Lacey

Thurifer
Andrea Griffith

Communion Assistants
Victoria Wilson and Richard Laedlein

Crucifer
Andrea Griffith

Intercessor Charlotte Hoare

Altar Guild Linda Jones (Captain) Linda Lacey and Brittany Underkofler

> Stewardship Speaker Jim Wilson

All the Company of Heaven Championship is set! Our Final Four was an exciting round. After the first quarter of competition Mary Magdalene and Hildegard both held leads. At the half Francis still trailed only by two but Michael was hoping for an extended half-time show. At the end of the third quarter Francis had taken the lead by the slimmest of margins while Hildegard continued to punish Michael. Hildegard showed no mercy in the fourth quarter while Mary M turned the tables and surged to the win. Our final is set: Mary Magdalene takes on the lady from Bingen, Hildegard!

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Francis	3	2	5	2	12
Mary M	5	2	2	8	17
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Michael	1	1	1	2	5
Hildegard	7	4	6	10	27

Regular Christ Church Office hours:

Monday: 8:00 am - 2:00 PM; Tuesday 8:00AM-12:30PM Wednesday 8:00 am - 2:00 PM The Christ Church Mission Sharing God's Love with All

Please visit us at www.rdgchristchurch.org. The Diocesan and church staff members are listed, as well as a calendar of events. You may use this website to send in prayer requests. You may also request to be added to the list for e-news and newsletters.

Altar Candle Memorials for November are given for Blessings Received by Susan Frankowski; Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare by Stephen and Mary Hoare; Lois Feick by David and Judy Feick.

Altar Flowers for today are to the Greater Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Mr and Mrs. Matthias Roland and Mr. and Mrs. Solan Parkes from the estate of Charles and Grace Parkes and In Loving Memory of her parents, Luther and Dorothy Kunkle by Linda Jones.

If you would like to dedicate flowers for a Sunday service in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a life event, please call Nancy Shelley at 610-375-7925.

Amahl and the Night Visitors. A Children's Christmas musical story This is a collaboration between Albright College and Berks Opera. December 2nd, 7pm and December 3rd, 3 pm. About 50 minutes. Albright College Chapel. Bring your kids and grandkids. \$10 adults, kids and students free.

Adult Forum This week we continue focusing on "All the Company of Heaven." This Sunday, November 5th, our talk is by David Emes on Sebastian, Lawrence, Bartholomew and Helena. Join us at 9:05am in the Parlor.

Wednesday, November 22 at 5:30 PM. Please join us as we give Thanks at our David Cullen service. We will be singing songs from Josh Groban, Louis Armstrong, John Denver and more, all with a focus on Thanksgiving.

Our **Annual Food Ingathering** this year benefits the Veterans Coalition of Pennsylvania. Items needed are Breakfast cereals, canned "hearty soups" (which include protein, starch, and vegetable), pasta sauce and canned fruit/vegetables. Today we collect your donated food items at the altar and bless them.

This week at Christ Church

Sunday, November 19—25th Sunday after
Pentecost and Final Stewardship Sunday
8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
905AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
11AM Fellowship Hour with Stewardship
Celebration
3PM—5:30PM Berk's Youth Chorus practice
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, November 20 12PM—1PM NA meeting 530-630PM NA meeting

Tuesday, November 21 830AM—12PM Citizenship Class 930AM Zoom Centering Prayer 12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, November 22

10AM Rummage Sale 12PM Holy Eucharist 12PM—1PM NA Meeting 530-630PM NA Meeting 530PM Dave Cullen Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, November 23 Happy Thanksgiving (office closed) 12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Friday, November 24 12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, November 25 12PM—2PM NA Meeting

Sunday, November 26—Christ the King Sunday

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
905AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
11AM Fellowship Hour
3PM—5:30PM Berk's Youth Chorus practice
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Upcoming Events

Today Final Sunday of our Stewardship Campaign

November 22 Thanksgiving Eve with Dave Cullen at 5:30PM

November 23 Thanksgiving Day, office closed

November 26 Christ The King Sunday

November 27 Vestry Meeting at 6PM

December 17 Greening the Church after 10am service

December 20 Blue Christmas service with David Cullen at 5:30PM

