Christ Episcopal Church

Reading, Pennsylvania Christ is All and in All



The Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)
Page 5

10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)
Page 9



Today's Readings

The First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 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. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Cover image: Rembrandt, The Baptism of the Eunuch, 1626

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Let us pray to the Lord, who has conquered death and given us the hope of everlasting life.

Intercessor: Jesus, bread from heaven, you satisfy the hungry with good things: grant us a share with all the faithful departed in the banquet of your kingdom. We remember Arthur Wandrey; Hear us, risen Lord, our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, the light of the world, you gave the man born blind the gift of sight: open the eye of faith and bring us from darkness to your eternal light and glory. We pray for Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Michael, our presiding bishop, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, The Anglican Church of Australia and St. John's, Hamlin; Hear us, risen Lord, our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, Son of the living God, you summoned your friend Lazarus from death to life: raise us at the last to full and eternal life with you. We pray especially for those celebrating this week: Ashleigh Hoelscher, Bill Uhrich, Dale Goodyear, Kathleen Sheridan and Victoria Achenbach; Hear us, risen Lord, our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, crucified Saviour, in your dying you entrusted each to the other, Mary your mother and John your beloved disciple: sustain and comfort all who mourn and be with those who are sick, suffering or any kind of need, especially those on our prayer list and those we name now...; Hear us, risen Lord, our resurrection and our life.

Jesus, our way and truth and life, you drew your disciple Thomas from doubt to faith: reveal the resurrection faith to the doubting and the lost. Be with anyone living in fear and danger, especially with the people of Ukraine and the Holy Land. Hear us, risen Lord, our resurrection and our life.

Celebrant: May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfillment of his eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

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

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

Celebrant: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

People: he is our salvation, our eternal glory.
Celebrant: If we die with him, we shall live with him;
People: if we endure, we shall reign with him.

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:

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Acts 8:26-40 (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 22:24-30 (read responsively by whole verse)

My praise is of him in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him:

"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD;

he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him;

they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

The Epistle: 1 John 4:7.21(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

The Gospel Reading: John 15:1-8 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

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

People: Glory be to you, Lord Christ.

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord:

People: Praise be 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)

Celebrant: Hear us, risen Lord

People: our resurrection and our life.

Confession of Sin 360

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B, page 367)

The Sanctus 367

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 368

The Lord's Prayer and Breaking of the Bread 364

The Invitation to Communion and 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 Post-Communion Prayers

The Celebrant first prays the following:

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Then all pray together on page 365.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

8:00 AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Communion Assistants
Ellen Sunderman and Rick Wolf

Lector and Intercessor Rick Wolf Altar Guild
Charlotte Hoare (captain),
Christine Keeler, Josephine Lawson
and Mary Jane Androne

Usher Chris Spohn

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.

Prelude

Adagio, BWV 654

J. S. Bach

Please stand

Processional Hymn 400 All creatures of our God and King (omit verses 2, 3 and 6)

The Liturgy of the Word

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

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

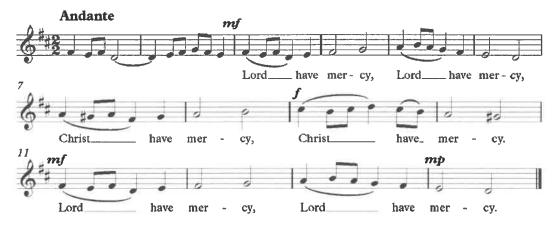
Celebrant: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

People: he is our salvation, our eternal glory.
Celebrant: If we die with him, we shall live with him;
People: if we endure, we shall reign with him.

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 David Thorne



The Collect of the Day

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

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The First Reading: Acts 8:26-40 (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 188 Love's redeeming work is done

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

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

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)

Celebrant: Hear us, risen Lord

People: our resurrection and our life.

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 Psalm 100

John Huston

(see text on page 729 of the Book of Common Prayer)

Presentation Hymn 174 (vs 1)

At the Lamb's high feast we sing, praise to our victorious King, who hath washed us in the tide, flowing from his piercèd side; praise we him, whose love divine, gives his sacred Blood for wine, gives his Body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer B page 367)

S120

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts:

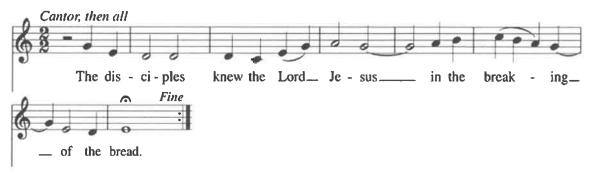
People: We lift them to the Lord.

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



The Lord's Prayer

The Fraction Anthem

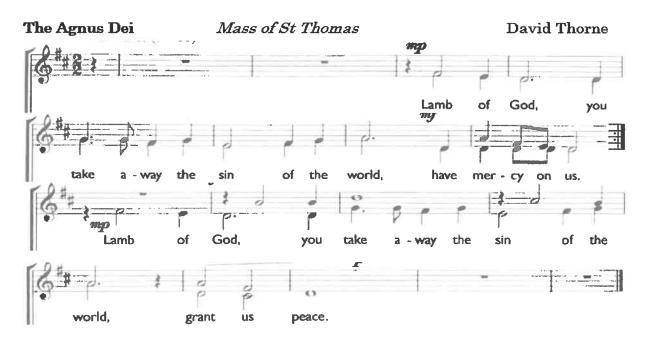


The Cantor sings the following verse and then all sing the Refrain again: The bread which we break, Alleluia, Is the communion of the Body of Christ.

Music: Jack Warren Burnam (b. 1946). Copyright © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam.

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).



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The Communion Hymn All who hunger gather gladly (see page 14)

If Eucharistic visitors 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 Prayers

The Celebrant first prays the following:

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Then all pray together on page 365.

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful we adore thee

The Dismissal

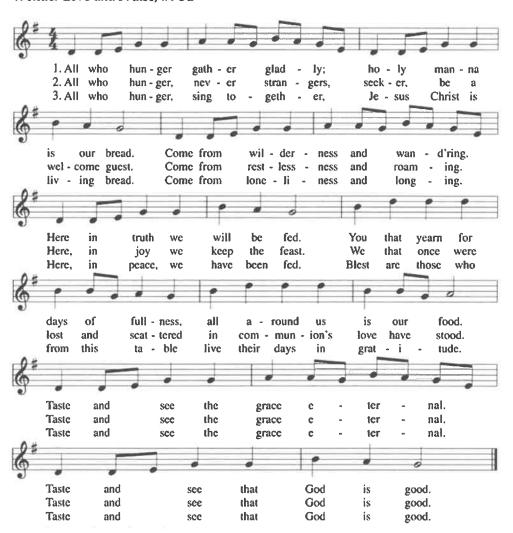
Celebrant: Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude Fugue in C major, BWV 564 J. S. Bach

All who hunger gather gladly

Wonder Love and Praise, #761



10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Organist and Choir Director
John Painter

Verger Linda Jones

Gospel Book Bearer Andrea Griffith

> Lector Anita Powell

Intercessor Ashleigh Hoelscher Ushers Larry Whalen, David Thun, Christine Keeler and Walt Frankowski

Communion Assistants
Terry Rowles and Andrea Griffith

Crucifer Amelia Fanning

Acolytes
Derek Morris and Josh West

Altar Guild
Charlotte Hoare (captain),
Christine Keeler, Josephine Lawson and
Mary Jane Androne

Adult Forum: This Sunday, in Adult Forum, we continue the series on "Resurrection: Then and Now." We will be exploring the resurrection stories and philosophies of the New Testament to delve into what the resurrection of Jesus meant for the earliest Christian communities and what it still means for us today. Fr Bryce will be leading us in this sessions on April 28 at 9:05am in the Parlor. Please join us.

ALICE Training (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate)

The Security Task Force will be holding an ALICE training session at the Church at 1:00 PM on Saturday May 18. The training session, which will be conducted by Navigate360, will last for approximately 4 hours and will include classroom instruction as well as various mock exercises involving the types of threats we might possibly encounter in the event that an intruder entered the Church. Light refreshments will be provided in the Parish Hall starting at 12:30 PM. https://forms.gle/eDnMcVZmRdnuvjfR8

<u>Participation in the mock exercises is strictly voluntary.</u> (You may come and simply observe if you wish!)

Vestry Wayne Fanning (Senior Warden) Diane Morris (Junior Warden) Terry Rowles (Pastoral Care) Pam Wheat (Grants) Carolyn Handy (Stewardship) Michael West (Finances) Connie Fegley (Worship) Anita Powell (Hospitality) Kim Alarcon (Outreach) Mary Arguelles (Children/Youth) Chuck Brantman (Security/Property)	Music Parish Choir Bell Ringers Children's Choir Fall Festival of Arts Education Adult Forum Library Children's Ministries Education for Ministry Pastoral Care Cards and notes Prayer Lists Eucharistic Visitors	Outreach Opportunity House Rummage Mary's Shelter Narcotics Anonymous Literacy Council of Reading Berks ESL Dinners Daughters of the King Episcopal Church Women Helping Harvest Veterans Coalition of PA Angel Tree
Our Ministries Worship Acolytes Altar Guild Eucharistic Ministers Lectors and Intercessors Vergers Guitar and Taizé Services Healing Team Centering Prayer Morning Prayer Ushers Kristallnacht Service	Fellowship Sunday Coffee Hour 50+ Club Hospitality Committee Business Property Ministry Church Maintenance Days Stewardship Team Planned Giving Communications	Berks Community Health Center Berks Youth Chorus

Gather 24 · May 4 at PNC Field (Moosic) · Registration on diobeth.org is now open for this annual formation event designed primarily for members of the lay order. Please help us encourage all to attend and consider attending yourself. This year we have 21 sessions for participants to choose from and are excited to be hosting Bishop Audrey with Bishop Kevin in a panel discussion during the day. Registration, schedule, session details, and more are available on the Gather 24 page (diobeth.org/gather24) on the diocesan website.

Security Taskforce

Junior and Senior EYC: Friday, May 24th 6.8pm

BOTH EYC groups will come together for a summer kickoff event! Hamburgers and hot dogs, lawn games, and more as we celebrate our accomplishments this school year and look forward to summer!

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.

On Sunday May 5th our Adult Forum (from 9:05 to 9:45am) will focus on **What's Happening @ CCR?** Please join us to learn about so many exciting things that are happening at Christ Church, including our new Taize service, Episcopal Youth Community and other new or possible upcoming endeavors. There will be plenty of time for questions.

On Sunday May 12th our Adult Forum (from 9:05 to 9:45am) will focus on all of the work that we have been exploring and accomplishing with Partners for Sacred Places. We will reflect upon our Asset Mapping, watch the wonderful video produced by Partners and hear what our Strategic Visioning Team has been doing over the past few months. Please join us.

Gardeners Needed!

Do you have a passion for beautifying outdoor spaces? Do you want to encourage the neighborhood to share in the peace and beauty of Christ Church courtyard? Then, let your passion be your ministry! The courtyard has served the local community with decorations for the Advent, Christmas, Lenten, and Easter seasons. It is also a wonderful location for our neighbors who live and work in the area to enjoy a quiet moment during a busy day. Your gifts of time and talent can be used to make the courtyard inviting and welcoming. Please let Father Bryce or Chris Spohn know if you want to pursue this ministry.

For those in need of our prayers....

Steve	Gigi	Craig
Penny	Kristin	Frank
Beverly	Lisa	Liza
Rose Marie Innocent	Nick	Beth
Stacey	Polly	Barb
Stacey Joe Sally	Richard	Seth
Sally	Wyatt	Ellen
Barbara	Jim	Peter
Mariorie Harrison Thomas	Annie	Mary A

Marjorie Harrison Thomas Annie Mary Ann

Jerry Denise Bob Kappenstein







YOU'RE INVITED TO A FUNDRAISING EVENT

organization: Episcopal Church

Women's Missions

EVENT DATE:

May 1 and May 2, 2024

Bring this invite to:

Austin's Restaurant & Bar - 1101 Snyder Road - West Lawn 610-678-5500

Coastal Grille - 2713 N. Meridian Boulevard - Wyomissing 610-743-4006

20% of your food purchases - alcohol not included (dine in or take out) will be given to:

Episcopal Church Women's Missions

Invitation must be presented for purchase to qualify VOID IF DISTRIBUTED AT RESTAURANT

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 March 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; Sherry Feick Chandler by David and Judy Feick.

Altar Flowers for today are to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Arthur Wandrey from the Reverend Bryce Wandrey and Family.

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 preschool 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.

Today, Sunday, April 28th immediately following the 10AM service in the parlor, there will be a meeting of the **Daughters of the King**. (DOK) This meeting is open to any woman that may be interested and for those women that have already expressed an interest, to learn more about DOK and ask questions.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, April 28—The Fifth Sunday of Easter 8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken) 9AM Sunday School 9:05AM Adult Forum 10AM Holy Eucharist (sung) 11AM Fellowship Hour 11AM DOK Meeting 3PM Berks Youth Chorus rehearsals 4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, April 29
9AM ESL Class
12PM—1PM NA meeting
5:30-6:30PM NA meeting

Tuesday, April 30 9AM Citizenship class 12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, May 1
9AM ESL Class
10AM-1PM Rummage Sale
12PM Holy Eucharist
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
5:30-6:30PM NA Meeting

Thursday, May 2
9AM Citizenship Class
11AM Morning Prayer in the Chapel
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
7PM—Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 3 12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, May 4 10AM-1PM Rummage Sale 12PM—2PM NA Meeting Sunday, May 5—The Sixth Sunday of Easter 8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken) 9AM Sunday School 9:05AM Adult Forum 10AM Holy Eucharist (sung) 11AM Fellowship Hour 3PM Berks Youth Chorus rehearsals 4PM—5PM NA meeting

Upcoming Events

April 28 Daughters of the King 11AM

May 1 & 2 ECW fundraiser at Austins and Coastal Grille

May 1,4 & 8 ECW Rummage Sale 10AM 1PM

May 4 Gather 24 PNC Field (Moosic)

May 5 Anniversary of Building Consecration at 8AM and 10AM (May 10, 1826) and What's Happening at CCR at 9AM

May 8 Taize Service 5:30PM (No Noon service today)

May 9 Ascension of our Lord Eucharist 12PM

Christ Episcopal Church

May 18 ALICE security training 1-5PM