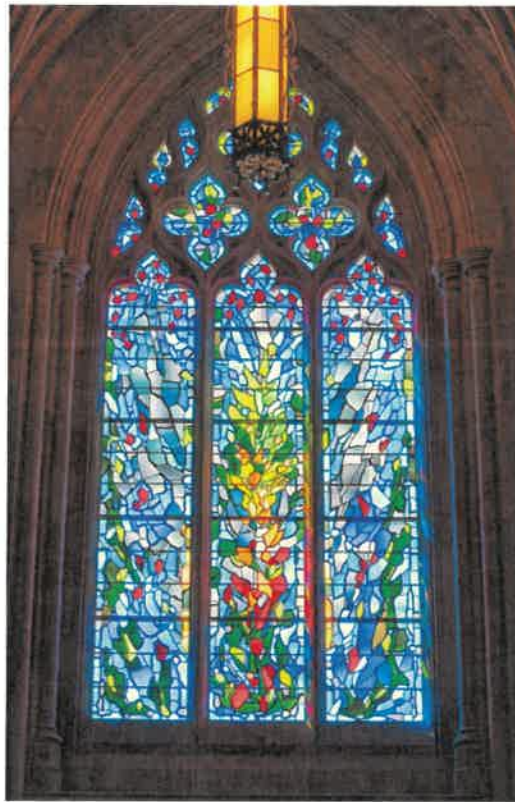


Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



**Third Sunday after Pentecost
Independence Sunday**

June 29, 2025

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)

Page 5

10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)

Page 9



Today's Readings

The First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

The Second Reading: Galatians 5:1,13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Cover image: "Founding of a New Nation" (Stained glass window in Washington National Cathedral)

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly ask you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Hear us today as we pray:

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the church, bless all of those who serve you in any capacity; we pray especially for Bryce, our rector, Kevin our Bishop, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, for The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) and for St. Thomas, Morgantown; Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord of life, who provides with such rich abundance, we pray for all of those who celebrate this week; Charlotte Hoare, Jonathan Day, Marinelly Rivera-Obando, Nancy Shelly, Bonnie Goetz, Daniel Lawson, Courtney and June Tull and James and Victoria Wilson. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord of healing and comfort, who brings the gentle touch of the great physician into our lives, we pray for all of those in need of prayers this day, especially for those on our prayer list printed in the bulletin and any we name now...; Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord of new life and eternal beginnings, we remember all of those who have died and now rest in your loving arms, Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Finally O Lord, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name. For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. **Amen.**

Christ Church (Episcopal)
Reading, PA
8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
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.**

Collect for Purity

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 National Anthem

Hymn 720 (verse 1)

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, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 (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 77: 11-20 (read responsively by whole verse)

I will remember the works of the LORD,
and call to mind your wonders of old time.

**I will meditate on all your acts
and ponder your mighty deeds.**

Your way, O God, is holy;
who is so great a god as our God?

**You are the God who works wonders
and have declared your power among the peoples.**

By your strength you have redeemed your people,
the children of Jacob and Joseph.

**The waters saw you, O God;
the waters saw you and trembled;
the very depths were shaken.**

The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered;
your arrows flashed to and fro;

**The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world;
the earth trembled and shook.**

Your way was in the sea,
and your paths in the great waters,
yet your footsteps were not seen.

**You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.**

The Second Reading: Galatians 5:1,13-25 (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: Luke 9:51-62 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

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

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: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

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 A on page 361)

The Sanctus 362

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 11

The Lord's Prayer and Breaking of the Bread 364

The Invitation to Communion 364

Everyone is invited to receive. 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.) Gluten Free wafers are available; if you require gluten free please indicate this when receiving. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail.

The Post-Communion Prayers

The Celebrant first prays the following:

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to

The Blessing

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

8:00 AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Communion Assistant
Ellen Sunderman

Lector and Intercessor
Dane Miller

Usher
Chris Spohn

Altar Guild
June Tull (Captain), Priscilla
Hirschenhofer, Andrea Griffith, Kim
Alarcon, Sally Wilcox and
Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

Welcome to Christ 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.

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

We are grounded in the values of love, service and faithful stewardship. Firmly rooted in compassionate collaboration, we welcome partnerships that nurture our neighbors and address pressing issues in our community. We endeavor to be a cornerstone for the city of Reading, enabling all that come through our doors to experience the dignity, purpose and opportunities that God desires for everyone.

**Christ Church (Episcopal)
Reading, PA
10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

Prelude

Clair de Lune

Louis Vierne

Please stand

Processional Hymn 718 *God of our fathers*

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.**

Collect for Purity

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 National Anthem

Hymn 720 (verse 1)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated

The First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14(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 655 *O Jesus I have promised*

The Holy Gospel: Luke 9:51-62 (full text on page 3 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

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

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: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

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

God Bless America

Irving Berlin

Victoria Wilson, soloist

Congregation joins in singing the second refrain

Presentation Hymn 380 From all the dwell below the skies (vs 3)
 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.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A on page 361)

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 361

The Sanctus

William Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

The Lord's Prayer

364

The Fraction Anthem

Three systems of musical notation for a two-part setting. The top system begins with the lyrics "Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness". The middle system continues with "of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and". The bottom system concludes with "see the good - ness of the Lord. of the Lord." and ends with a "Fine" marking. The music is written in a key with two flats and a 3/4 time signature.

The Invitation to Communion

Everyone is invited to receive. 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.) Gluten Free wafers are available; if you require gluten free please indicate this when receiving. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail.

The Agnus Dei

Kevin Mayhew

A single system of musical notation for a two-part setting. The tempo is marked "Adagio (♩ = 69)" and the dynamics range from "mp" to "pp". The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace." The music is written in a key with two flats.

Communion Hymn 680 *O God, our help in ages past*

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:

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.**

Then all say together on page 365

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn 292 *O Jesus crowned with all renown*

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Toccata in b-flat minor*

Louis Vierne

10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist

The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Organist and Choir Director

John Painter

Verger

Kathleen Harris

Lector

James Wilson

Intercessor

Victoria Wilson

Gospel Book Bearer

Emily Wandrey

Ushers

David Emes, Joann Hyneman, Garrett Hyneman and Jack Lacey

Communion Assistants

Kate Fanning and Milah Smith

Crucifer

Ian Hoelscher

Acolytes

Ozi Abara and Alex Brantman

Altar Guild

June Tull (Captain), Priscilla Hirschenhofer, Andrea Griffith, Kim Alarcon, Sally Wilcox and Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

For those in need of our prayers....

Runette	Kristin	Wyatt	Beverly
Connie	Randall	Sheila	Jay
Jeri	Laura	Lisa	Dwight
Max	Kate	Betsy	Lisa
Elizabeth	David	Lola	Sandi
Mary	Shelly	MJ	Shana
The Natale Family	Frank	Marie	Lori
Brenda	Jeff	Kevin	Lynn
Deidre	Zach	Ivar	Linda
Veronica	Jacqueline	Donna	Angelica
David	Nancy	Doris	Debbie
Kathy	Marie	Chase and family	Kurt
Parker-Stewart Family		John Helwig	

Kindly submit any names you would like to be added to the prayer list by emailing Kim @officemgr@rdgchristchurch.org or writing the name on the paper on the table outside the chapel

Vestry

Diane Morris (Senior Warden/Stewardship)
Chuck Brantman (Junior Warden/Property)
Anita Powell (Pastoral Care)
Pam Wheat (Grants)
Carolyn Handy (Hospitality)
Rick Wolf (Finances)
Bob Kappenstein (Worship)
Kim Alarcon (Security Task Force)
Mary Arguelles (Children/Youth)
Jill Braun (Community Ministries)
Matt Hoelscher (Community Ministries)
Michelle Rowles-Cranmer (Daycare/Nursery Initiatives)

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

Music

Parish Choir
Bell Ringers
Children's Choir
Fall Festival of Arts

Education

Adult Forum
Library
Children's Ministries
Education For Ministry
Bible Study
EYC

Pastoral Care

Cards and notes
Prayer Lists
Eucharistic Visitors
Flower Delivery
Pastoral Visits

Fellowship

Sunday Fellowship Hour
50+ Club
Hospitality Committee

Business

Property
Churchyard Maintenance
Stewardship Team
Planned Giving
Communications
Capital Campaign
Security Task Force

Community 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
Berks Youth Chorus
Sunday Service
Livestream
Berks County Community Foundation

Altar Candle Memorials for June are given for Blessings Received by Susan Frankowski; Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare by Stephen and Charlotte Hoare; Sherry Feick Chandler by David and Judy Feick.

Altar flowers are given today for the Glory of God in Celebration of their 41st Wedding Anniversary by James and Victoria Wilson.

Do you need prayers? All of us have our times when we don't feel whole and we need someone to pray for us. Or, we have someone in our lives who is broken and needs healing. Our Healing

Prayer Team is back on the 3rd Sunday of every month to pray for you and with you. If you would like to join them please come up to communion early (after the ushers and choir), commune with our prayer team, receive anointing with holy oil and

then proceed to the baptistry for healing prayers.



The ECW Rummage Sale will be featuring its summer goods this month, come check it out on July 2, 5 and 9 from 10AM to 1PM.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, June 29—The Third Sunday after Pentecost and Independence Sunday

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, June 30

12PM—1PM NA meeting

Tuesday, July 1

12PM Centering Prayer Chapel
12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, July 2

12PM—Noonday Eucharist
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
5:30-7PM NA Meeting

Thursday, July 3

9:30AM Zoom Centering Prayer
11AM Morning Prayer in the Chapel
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
5PM-6:30PM NA Meeting

Friday, July 4

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, July 5

12PM-2PM NA meeting

Sunday, July 6—The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Upcoming Events

July 2, 5 & 9 ECW Rummage Sale 10AM-1PM

August 3 Mary's Shelter Bookbag Collection Day at 8AM and 10AM

August 10 Blessing of our School children's book bags with free Sweet Ride Ice cream!

10AM



A COURSE FOR THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY

Adult Forum

We are utilizing another *Pilgrim Course*. For six weeks we will be "Turning to Christ." "These six sessions...explore the questions candidates are asked when they become a follower of Jesus, the beginning of the pilgrim way." The questions come from our baptismal covenant and this will be a great way for all us to dwell in that covenant no matter where we are on the pilgrim journey of faith. Please join us.