Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 27, 2025
8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)
Page 5
10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)
Page 9



Today's Readings

The First Reading: Hosea 1:2-10

When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel." She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen." When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God." Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

The Second Reading: Colossians 2: 6-15

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Cover image: "Jesus Praying in the Garden" by Gustave Dore (1832-1883)

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Lord, we pray for this world and all people; may we sit on the mountainside with you, hear your words, receive your grace and be filled with all you have to offer, as we say, in your mercy, hear us.

Intercessor: Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations. We pray for those living in any kind of fear and danger, especially the people of Ukraine and the Holy Land. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word. Be especially with those who are celebrating this week: Scott Androne, Lauren Hoelscher, Jeffrey Omlor and Rev. Bryce and Nichole Wandrey. Jesus, Lord of life, in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way, especially Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea and Trinity, Pottsville. Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life. Jesus, Lord of life, **in your mercy, hear us**.

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures. Be especially with those printed on our prayer list in the bulletin and any that we name now... Jesus, Lord of life, in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you, remembering Jane and Jospeh Chase. Raise us with them to eternal life. Jesus, Lord of life, in your mercy, hear us.

Celebrant: Merciful Father,

All: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Christ Church (Episcopal) 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.

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 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:

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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: Hosea 1:2-10 (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 85 (read responsively by whole verse) You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

You have withdrawn all your fury and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.

Restore us then, O God our Savior; let your anger depart from us.

Will you be displeased with us for ever? will you prolong your anger from age to age?

Will you not give us life again, that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your mercy, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Second Reading: Colossians 2: 6-15 (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 11:1-13 (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: Jesus, Lord of life, People: in your mercy, hear us.	
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:

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Then all say together on page 365

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 Very Revd. John Stratton

Communion Assistant Ellen Sunderman

Lector and Intercessor Terry Rowles

> Usher Chris Spohn

Altar Guild
Charlotte Hoare (Captain), Christine
Keeler, Fran Graeff, Josephine
Lawson, Mary Jane Androne and
Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

Christ Church (Episcopal) 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.

Hymns can be found in the blue Hymnal 1982

Prelude

L'organo primitivo

Pietro Yon

Please stand

Processional Hymn

525 The Church's one foundation

The Liturgy of the Word

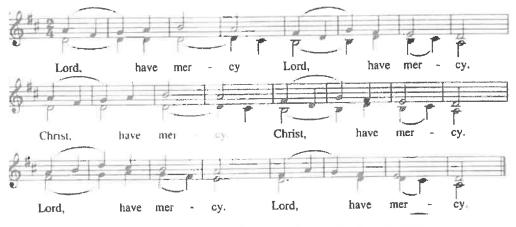
Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

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.

Kyrie Gregory Murray



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The Collect of the Day

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

Celebrant: Let us pray:

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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: Colossians 2: 6-15 (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 709 O God of Bethel

The Holy Gospel: Luke 11:1-13 (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: Jesus, Lord of life,

People: in your mercy, hear us.

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 The Call Ralph Vaughan Williams

David Richie, Soloist
Come my way, my truth, my life:
Such a way as gives us breath:
Such a truth as ends all strife:
Such a life as killeth death

Presentation Hymn Praise to God, immortal praise (Hymn 288 verse 1)

Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days; bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ: all to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our blessings flow.

The Holy Communion

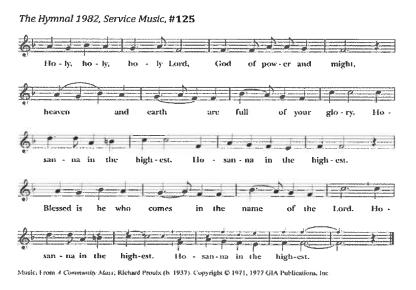
The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A on page 361)

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 Richard Proulx



The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

The Lord's Prayer

364

The Fraction Anthem

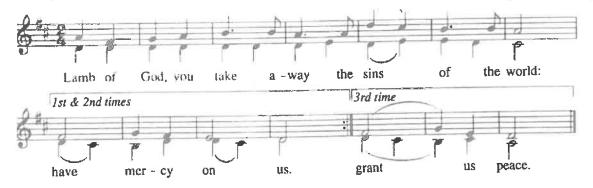


The Invitation to Communion

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

Gregory Murray



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The Communion Hymn 674 Forgive our sins as we forgive

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:

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then all say together on page 365

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn 450 All hail the power of Jesus' name (omit verses 4 and 5) The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God.

10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Very Revd. John Stratton

Organist and Choir Director
John Painter

Verger Jeff Morris

Lector
Diane Morris

Intercessor Anita Powell

Gospel Book Bearer Benjamin Frymoyer Ushers

Larry Whalen, Christine Keeler, Kate Schuler and Zoe Morris

Communion Assistants
Kate Schuler and Jill Braun

Crucifer Andrea Griffith

Acolytes
Joshua West and Luke Weyandt

Altar Guild
Charlotte Hoare (Captain), Christine
Keeler, Fran Graeff, Josephine
Lawson, Mary Jane Androne and
Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

	For those	e in need of our prayers	
Runette	Kristin	Wyatt	Beverly
Connie	Randall	Bryan	Nancy
Jeff	Doris	Harry	Lola
M.J.	Mary	Sandi	Brandon
Mark	Kat	Debbie	Bev
Kathy	Kate	Max	Betsy
Carol	Diann	Lois	Jeri
Sue	Veronica	Jena and John	Joe
Penny	Marilyn	Susan	Kathy
Bruce	Jaime	Randy	Cindy
Jason	M.J.	Lola and family	Dick
Patricia	Angelica		

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



Are you ready for some football? On

Sunday August 31st, at both 8am and 10am, we will be blessing the football teams again. Come dressed in your



favorite teams gear and bring helmets and balls and anything else you would like to have blessed!

This is another great chance to invite your football loving friends to Christ Church.



Christ Church and Trinity Covenant Golf Tourney!

Mark your calendars today for a fun filled golf tournament on Sunday September 7th at 1pm at Heidelberg Country Club. Invite your friends to create the best foursome you can. Cost is \$100 per person which includes lunch and open bar (Beer and wine during lunch.) There is a sign up sheet on the table near the chapel.



It's Christ Church night out with the Fightin' Phils on Friday September 12th at 6:45pm. We have 50 reserved tickets available for purchase at \$12 each and they will be

available to purchase on a Sunday morning soon. Mark your calendars today!

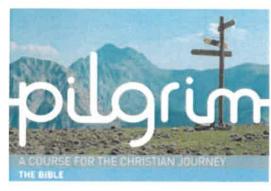


Bookbag Drive August 3rd, 2025 at Christ Church, Reading

Below is a checklist of items needed to complete a full backpack which we will bless on August 3rd and then take to Mary's Shelter. You can team up with others to complete a backpack or go it alone! It's up to you.

□ 1 backpack of any color
□ 2 spiral notebooks
□ 3 2-pocket folders
□ 1 pack of index cards
□ 1 box of crayons (pack of 16 or 24)
□ 1 coloring book
☐ 1 pack of washable markers (pack of 8)
□ 1 safety scissors
□ 1 box of color pencils (10 in a box)
□ 1 pack of mechanical pencils (10 or 12 in a
pack)
□ 1 ruler
□ 1 pack of erasers
□ 1 glue stick
□ 1 lunch box or an insulated lunch bag

Adult Forum



What is the Bible? How was it given to us? How can we read it today? This six week Pilgrim Course on The Bible will help us answer all of those questions and more. The Bible is one of the most influential books in the world and is still the bestselling book of all time. Join us in the Parlor at 9:05am every Sunday as we journey with the many books and authors of The Bible.



On August 10th we are
Blessing our Children's
Backpacks! Help us get our
students and teachers ready
for a new school year by
joining us at the 10am
service. After the service
Sweet Ride Ice Cream truck
will be parked on Court
Street and serving free ice
cream! Please invite a friend



who is going back to school to be with us. They will receive a special gift to clip to their backpack and free ice

cream · what could be better? [Please note that Mary's Shelter bookbag drive is on August 3rd and Blessing of the backpacks is August 10th]

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.

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.

We are again offering **ALICE training** to the congregation and those who use the building. ALICE is a "civilian active shooter response training program" used in schools, churches and businesses. The half day training will be held on Saturday August 2 at 1:00PM at the church. This is a free training. If interested, please contact the office (Officemgr@christchurch.org) or use the sign up sheet posted 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 July are given for Blessings Received by Susan Frankowski; Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare by Stephen and Charlotte Hoare; Charline Allen by Faith McKoy and Sherry Feick Chandler by David and Judy Feick.

Altar flowers are given today for the Glory of God and in Loving memory of Jane and Joseph Chase from their daughter, Eleanor Chase

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.

This Week at Christ Church Sunday, July 27—The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

Monday, July 28 12PM—1PM NA meeting

Tuesday, July 29 9:30AM Zoom Centering Prayer 12PM—1PM NA meeting

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

Thursday, July 31

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

Friday, August 1 12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, August 2 12PM-2PM NA meeting 1PM Alice training

Sunday, August 3—Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken) 9:05AM Adult Forum 10AM Holy Eucharist (sung) 4PM—5PM NA meeting

Upcoming Events

August 2 ALICE training 1PM

August 7 Thursday morning Bible study resumes at 9am

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

August 9 Dinner at Opportunity House— Host: Vestry

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

August 31 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost with the Blessing of the Football Teams at 8AM and 10AM

September 7 Christ Church and Trinity Covenant Golf Tournament at Heidelberg CC at 1PM

September 10 Interfaith Service at 7pm at Christ Church

September 12 Christ Church Night with the Fightin' Phils at 6:45PM

September 14 Service Participants Training with a pizza party