Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 17, 2025
8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)
Page 5
10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)
Page 9



Today's Readings

The First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets. who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,

and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Cover image: "Isaiah" by Gustave Dore (1832-1883)

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Holy God, creator, redeemer and life-giver; you have spoken the world into being and filled it with wonder and beauty. Hear us as we pray today:

Intercessor: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples; for Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, The Scottish Episcopal Church, and Christ Church, Susquehanna, Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, for all in authority, and for those living in fear and danger, the people of Ukraine and the Holy Land, especially those suffering from malnutrition and starvation. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For this city of Reading, for every city and community, and for those who live in them; we pray especially for those celebrating this week, Scarlett Frymoyer, Drew Jones, Bryan Allen, Julie Richie-Sammin, Victoria Wilson, Suzanna Fultz, Beverly Flatt, Jacqueline Wilson, Julie Anna Gonzalez, Dixie Lee Borders and George Fultz. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially for those printed on the prayer list in our bulletin and any we name now... Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, remembering Polly and Herman Sunderman, Polly Pflum and Laura and LeMaire Ross; Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

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: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 (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 80:1-2, 8-18 (Read responsively by whole verse)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,

stir up your strength and come to help us.

You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

You prepared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea and its branches to the River.

Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine;

preserve what your right hand has planted.

They burn it with fire like rubbish;

at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (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 12:49-56 (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			
The Prayers of the People (page 4 of this bulletin) Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy, People: Hear our prayer. Confession of Sin	260		
	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			

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:

Celebrant: God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through 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 Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Communion Assistant Terry Rowles

Lector and Intercessor
Julie Anna Gonzalez

Altar Guild
Victoria Wilson (captain,) Doris
Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller, Pat Kelley,

Usher Ellen Sunderman

David Emes and Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

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

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

Prélude (Suito, Ops. 5)

Maurice Duruflé

Please stand

Processional Hymn

436

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

The Liturgy of the Word

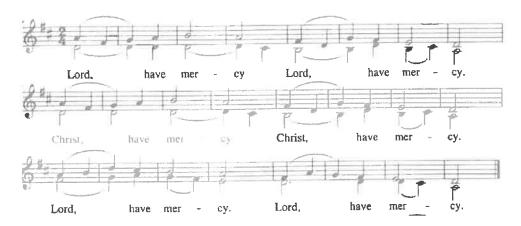
Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

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

Collect for Purity

All: 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:

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 (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 411 O bless the Lord, my soul!

The Holy Gospel: Luke 12:49-56 (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)

Intercessor: 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

The Offertory Anthem

Impromptu

Ned Rorem

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

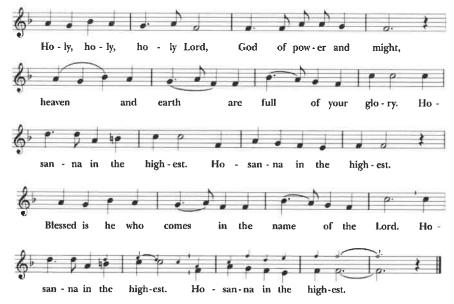
The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A on page 361)

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



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

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

The Lord's Prayer

364

The Fraction Anthem

Taize

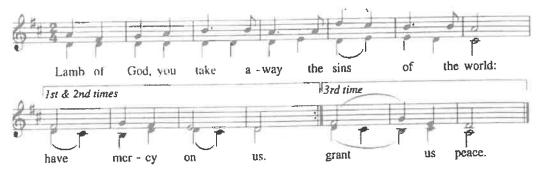


The Invitation to Communion

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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Organ Voluntary

Serenade

Ned Rorem

The Communion Hymn Make me a channel of your peace (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.

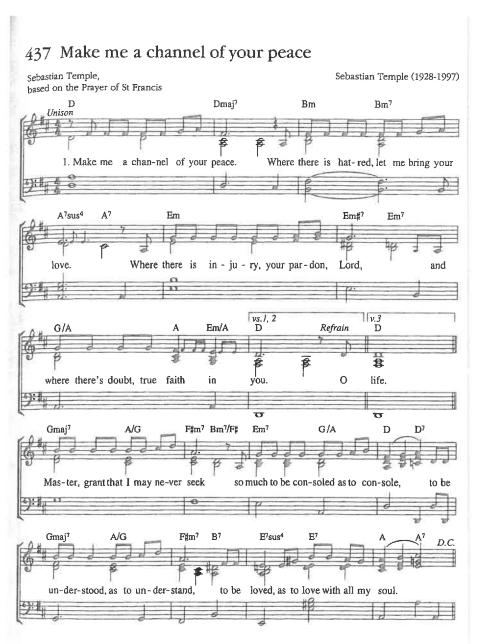
All: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one

cup. Amen.

The Post-Communion Prayers

The Celebrant first prays the following:

Celebrant: God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



- Make me a channel of your peace.
 Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
 Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.
- Make me a channel of your peace.
 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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Then all say together on page 365

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn The church of Christ in every age (see below)

The Dismissal

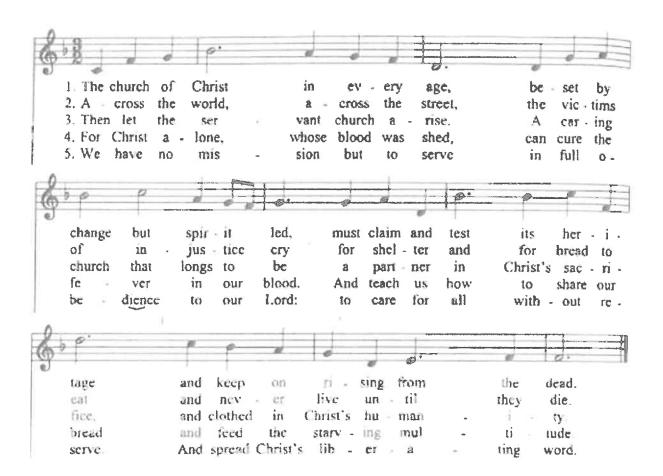
Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Tocatta (suite Gothique)

Léon Boëllmann



Covenant Cup



Join us for the first annual Covenant Cup, a friendly golf outing between Trinity Lutheran Church and Christ Episcopal Church, held at Heidelberg Country Club on Sunday, September 7th, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start.

The afternoon will feature men's and women's longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests, followed by a celebratory banquet buffet featuring brisket and salmon. Registration is \$100 per player, or become a \$1,000 sponsor and receive four player spots along with event recognition. Final registration deadline is August 30th.

Come enjoy fellowship, fairways, and a little friendly competition!



Scan the QR code to register today!

Are you having a birthday or anniversary that we haven't mentioned? Please contact Kim in the office at officemgr@rdgchristchurch.org and we will be sure to add it to our list!



10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist Reverend Bryce Wandrey Gospel Book Bearer Ian Hoelscher

Organist and Choir Director John Painter

Communion Assistants Victoria Wilson and Richard Laedlein

Verger Linda Jones

Crucifer Andrea Griffith

Lector Charlotte Hoare

Acolytes Lauren Hoelscher and Alex Brantman

Intercessor Victoria Wilson

Altar Guild Victoria Wilson (captain,) Doris Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller, Pat Kelley, David

Emes and

Ushers Larry Whalen, Christine Keeler and Kate Schuler

Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

	For those	For those in need of our prayers		
Runette	Kristin	Wyatt	Beverly	
Connie	Randall	Cindy V.	Elaine	
Chase	Parker-Stewart Family		Jeri	
John Ryan	Ivar	Zach	\mathbf{Doris}	
Lisa S	Pat	Nancy	Kevin	
Michael	Jeff	Earl	Cindy	
Marlene	Lola	Sandi	MJ	
Bowie	Mary Jo	Ralph, Carol, Shelly	Briana	
Rory	Tim	Lauren	\mathbf{Scott}	
Angelica				

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.



This past week our Vestry met and came to two important decisions. Upon recommendation from a Fundraising Task Force—which met numerous times over the past few months, consulting parishioners, local banks and our investment firm—we have decided to fund the next phase of our plaster restoration from our investment money market funds. We have already received a pledge of \$150,000, which will help to pay for the early phases of this work and keep our investment portfolio strong. Secondly, after months of consideration and comments,

we approved a Protocol Regarding Interactions with Immigration Agencies on our church property. This Protocol will now proceed to the implementation stage in consultation with our Security Task Force and be available for anyone to view in the near future.

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.

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.

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

Altar flowers are given today for the Glory of God and in Loving memory of Polly and Herman Sunderman by Ellen, Nancy and Peter Sunderman and Polly Pflum and Laura and LaMaire Ross by Cynthia Pipkin

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 next monthly **Dinner at Opportunity House** will be on
September 13th. The sponsor this
month will be ECW.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, August 17—Tenth Sunday after Pentecost.

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

Monday, August 18

12PM—1PM NA meeting

Tuesday, August 19

9:30AM Zoom Centering Prayer 11AM Funeral for Earl Fanning 12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, August 20

9AM Staff Meeting 12PM—Noonday Eucharist 12PM—1PM NA Meeting 5:30-7PM NA Meeting

Thursday, August 21

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

Friday, August 22

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, August 23

12PM-2PM NA meeting 9AM-11AM Courtyard Clean Up

Sunday, August 24—Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

Upcoming Events

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

September 3,6,10 ECW Rummage Sale 10AM-1PM

September 7 Sunday School Kick-Off in the parish hall 9-9:45AM

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

September 10 9/11 Remembrance with Eucharist at 12 noon Interfaith Service at Christ Church at 7PM

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

September 13 Dinner at Opportunity House hosted by ECW

September 14 Service Participants Training with a pizza party

Save the Date for our Bicentennial Events!

May 9-10, 2026 Consecration weekend Events Saturday afternoon and Sunday church-hours

July 18th, 2026 Neighborhood Block Party on Court St.