

Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



Holy Cross Sunday

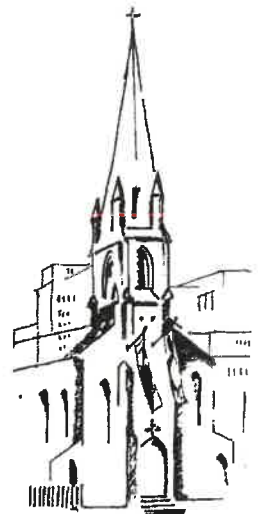
September 14, 2025

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)

Page 5

10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)

Page 9



Today's Readings

The First Reading: Isaiah 45: 21-25

Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together! Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old? Was it not I, the Lord? There is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Saviour; there is no one besides me. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness a word that shall not return: "To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed. In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.

The Second Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Holy Gospel: John 12:31-36a

Jesus said, "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

For those in need of our prayers....

Runette	Kristin	Wyatt	Beverly
Connie	Randall	Cindy V.	Vincent
Max	Kate	Randy	Junior V
Cindy V	Ron	Jeri	Tena
Josh	Brenda	Ralph and Carol	Shelly
Brianne	Angelica	Rory	Anita
Judy Sillhart	Todd	Byron and Sherry	Elizabeth
David	Lisa	Tony	Beth
Jena and Dan			

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.

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.

Cover image: Crosses on Christ Church, Reading votive candle stand and baptismal font

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: We come boldly to the throne of grace, praying to the almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace, saying, Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, for Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, The Anglican Church of South America and St. John's, Palmerton, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, especially for the people of Ukraine and the Holy Land, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, especially for those on our prayer list printed in the bulletin and for those we name now... we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are celebrating birthdays this week, especially Debbie Pearson, Priscilla Hirschenhofer, Susan Wallace, Scott Weidel, Dominic Arguelles, Robin Sterckx, Joanne Ruyak and Jeffrey Morris; we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the grace and mercy that gives us eternal life, remembering Frederick and Audrey Hentrich, Mary McIlvain Kutz and Ben Simon; we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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:

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The First Reading: Isaiah 45: 21-25 (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.**

Psalm 98 (The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse)

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

**With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.**

The Lord has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

**He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

**Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

**Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it,
the lands and those who dwell therein.**

Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.

**In righteousness shall he judge the world
and the peoples with equity.**

The Second Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Gospel Reading: John 12:31-36a (full text on page 2 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)

Intercessor: We pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy**

Confession of Sin 360

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B on 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 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 Prayer 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

Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Communion Assistant

Ellen Sunderman

Lector and Intercessor

Terry Rowles

Altar Guild

Victoria Wilson Captain,) Doris

Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller

and Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

Usher

Chris Spohn

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

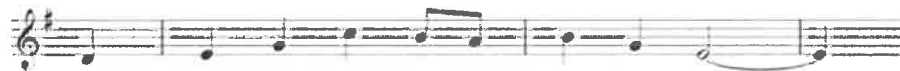
Prelude

Simple Gifts

arr. Virgil Fox

Please stand

Processional Hymn *The royal banners forward go*



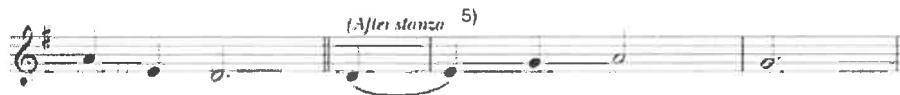
1. The roy - al ban - ners for - ward go,
2. There whilst he hung, his sa - cred side
3. Ful - filled is now what Da - vid told
4. O tree of glo - ry, tree most fair,
5. To thee, e - ter - nal three in One,



1. the cross shines forth in my - stic glow,
2. by sol - dier's spear was o - pened wide,
3. in true pro - phe - tic song of old
4. or - dained those ho - ly limbs to bear,
5. let ho - mage meet by all be done



1. where he in flesh our flesh who made, our sen - tence bore, our
2. to cleanse us in the pre - cious flood, of wa - ter mingl - ed
3. how God the sin - ner's King should be, for God is reign - ing
4. how bright in pur - ple robe it stood, the pur - ple of a
5. as by the cross thou dost re - store, so rule and guide us



1. ran - som paid.
2. with his blood,
3. on the tree.
4. Sav - ior's blood.
5. ev - er - more. A ----- men.

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.

Gloria

Maccabeus



1. Glo - ry to God! Our hearts to you we raise! Joy and peace on earth, in
high - est hea - ven praise! Songs of a - do - ra - tion, Lord, to you we bring,
prais - ing your great good - ness, Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King. Glo - ry to God! Our
hearts to you we raise! Joy and peace on earth, in high - est hea - ven praise!

2. Son of the Father, bearing this world's sin;
Lamb of God have mercy, grant us peace within.
You O Christ are holy, you alone are Lord;
With the Holy Spirit, evermore adored.
Glory to God! Our hearts to you we raise!
Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!
Text: Edwin Le Grice; Tune: Maccabaeus

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Please be seated

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

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Hymn 483 *The head that once was crowned with thorns*

The Holy Gospel: John 12:31-36a (full text on page 2 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: We pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy**

Confession of Sin

Announcements and Children's Message

The Offertory Anthem *O pray for the peace of Jerusalem* Herbert Howells

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 B on page 367)

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 367

The Sanctus

William Mathias

Ho - ly, 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 368

The Lord's Prayer

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The Fraction Anthem

Jimmy Owens

1. This is my bo - dy, bro - ken for you,
bring - ing you whole - ness, mak - ing you free. Take it and eat it,
and when you do, do it in love for me.

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

Adagio (♩ = 69) *mp*
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. *p* Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace. *pp*

The Communion Hymn 474 *When I survey the wondrous cross*

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**

The Post-Communion Prayer

365

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn 441 *In the cross of Christ I glory*

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude

Toccata

Theodore Dubois

10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Communion Assistants
Victoria Wilson and Richard Laedlein

Organist and Choir Director
John Painter

Acolytes
Lillian Arguelles and Alex Brantman

Verger
Matt Hoelscher

Altar Guild
Victoria Wilson Captain,) Doris Schilpp,
Helen Peemoeller
and Julie-Anna Gonzalez (Trainee)

Lector
Fran Graeff

Intercessor
Kat Brantman

Ushers
Walt Frankowski, Doris Schilpp,
Linda Jones and Sherry Faust

Mark your calendars for special guests at our Adult Forum (9:05am in the Parlor)

September 28 - Liz Cohen from Mary's Shelters

October 12 - Holly Wolf from Opportunity House

October 19 - Laura Biancone from LGBT Center

November 16 - Elizabeth Vendley from Lighthouse Women's and Children's Center

November 23 - Rabbi Brian Michelson from Oheb Shalom Reform Congregation
(also our 10am guest preacher)



Are you looking for a time to gather with others and enjoy lunch? You are invited to gather at Saucony Creek Franklin Station (100 S 7th St, Reading, PA 19602) on Tuesday September 16th at 12:30. Fr Bryce will be there and

hopefully you will be too! This is a time to gather, enjoy time together and grow as a community.

**Art Show**

Works by Pam Shields Roule and Elaine Soltis

8 pm Show runs through September 21
Trinity Lutheran Church
527 Washington Street, Reading
A former Christ Church Member, Pam Shields Roule lives and works in West Reading, and exhibits her works at the Ceres Gallery in NYC where she has been a member since 2011. Elaine Soltis is a major studio artist at GoggleWorks.

Our Class

A readers theater production
Sunday September 28, 3 - 5 pm
Christ Church
A powerful story that follows the lives of a group of Polish children from 1925 into WW II and the Holocaust

The Beauty of Ukrainian Music

Organ Recital by Gail Archer
Friday, October 3, 7 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church
527 Washington Street, Reading
A program deeply rooted in the rich tapestry of Ukrainian musical heritage.

Barynya - Uniting with Ukraine

Slavic Music and Dance
Sunday, October 5, 3 pm
WCR Center for the Arts
140 North Fifth Street, Reading
Spirited traditional folk performances pre-

sented by Ukrainian Kozak Dancers, a group dedicated to honoring the Slavic arts and culture.

Faith Healer

Drama

October 10, 7:30 pm, October 11, 7:30 pm
and October 12, 3 pm
WCR Center for the Arts
140 North Fifth Street, Reading
A play portraying an artist as a charlatan/miracle worker who tours with his wife. The cast includes Christ Church's own Kat Brantman.

Dogs in Space

Puppet Theater
Sunday, October 19, 12 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church
527 Washington Street, Reading
Tucker's Tales Puppet Theater returns, as dogs and cats hilariously compete to be the first to conquer space.

Fuller details are listed at [https://
www.fallfestivalofthearts.org/2025-events](https://www.fallfestivalofthearts.org/2025-events)

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

**"Your Body
deserves
love, attention
and gratitude"**

Ramón López

Ridam Dance



Ridam Tone



Opening New Classes

Saturday, September 27th

10 am Ridam Dance (Cardio)

11 am Ridam Tone (Strength)

Wednesday, October 1st

6 pm Ridam Dance (Cardio)

7 pm Ridam Tone (Strength)

First Class \$10

Single Class \$13

5 Class Pack \$55 (\$11/class)

10 Class Pack \$100 (\$10/class)

🌟 **Special Opening Offer:**

**Bring a friend & your next
class is FREE 🌟**

**or grab a 10-Class Pack for
just \$90 (\$9/class)!**



ridamfitness@gmail.com



@ridamdance

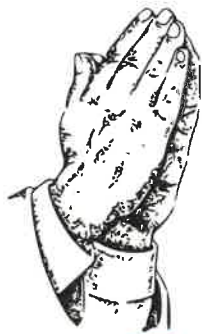


**Christ Episcopal Church
435 Court St, Reading, PA 19601**

Altar Candle Memorials for September 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 in loving memory of **Frederick and Audrey Hentrich** from their nieces and in loving memory of her mother, **Mary McIlvain Kutz** from Sidney McIlvain Kutz.

Lectern Flowers are to the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband **Ben Simon** from Helen Peemoeller.

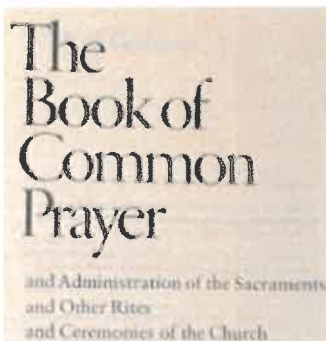


Do you need prayers? All of us have our times when we don't feel whole and we need someone to pray for us. Or, we have someone in our lives who is broken and needs healing. Our Healing Prayer Team is back on the 3rd Sunday of every month to pray for you and with you. If you would like to join them please 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 is again participating in **Bosco's Friends Helping Friends** event which will be held on Wednesday, October 22. You can shop in person or online from 8Am to 11PM. You can purchase your shopping pass from any ECW member for \$5.00 and get 25% off your purchase price (some exceptions apply.)

Adult Forum



On September 14th, we will have our first class on a new series called BCP - NJS. What's that? These will be sessions on The Book of Common Prayer - Not Just for Sundays. We will be taking time looking at particular parts of The Book of Common Prayer, discovering the richness of our prayer book and also understanding how we can use this resource of spirituality every day of our lives. Join us every Sunday in the Parlor at 9:05am.

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, September 14—Holy Cross Day

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
11AM Service Participants Training with a pizza party
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, September 15

12PM—1PM NA meeting

Tuesday, September 16

9:30AM Zoom Centering Prayer
9:30AM Literacy Class
12PM—1PM NA meeting
6PM Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, September 17

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

Thursday, September 18

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

Friday, September 19

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, September 20

12PM-2PM NA meeting

Sunday, September 21—St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM What's happening @ CCR?
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Upcoming Events

September 14 Service Participants Training with a pizza party

October 6 Scaffolding and Plaster work begins in the church

October 12 Stewardship Kick-Off Sunday

October 19 All the Company of Heaven Nominationtide

October 26 Blessing of Halloween Costumes

October 29 All Souls Taizé 5:30PM

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.