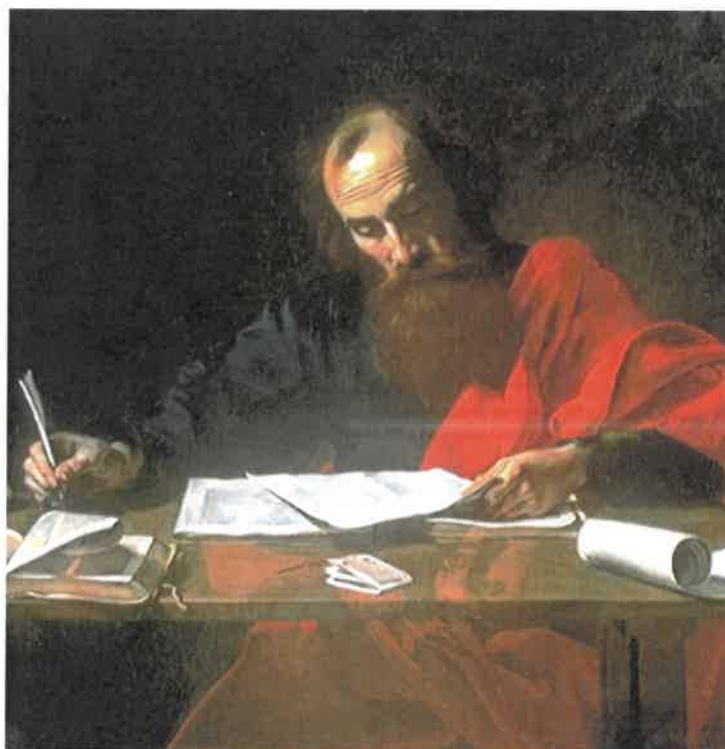


Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026

8AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)

Page 2

10AM—Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)

Page 9



Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, PA

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Page numbers on the right hand side of the bulletin refer to parts of the service that can be found in *The Book of Common Prayer* (the black book in the pews).

Please stand

The Liturgy of the Word

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity (said together)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord have mercy

People: **Christ have mercy**

Celebrant: Lord have mercy

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ 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: Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and

chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 149

Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**Judah became God's sanctuary
and Israel his dominion.**

The sea beheld it and fled;
Jordan turned and went back.

**The mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**You mountains, that you skipped like rams?
you little hills like young sheep?**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

To inflict on them the judgment decreed;
this is glory for all his faithful people.
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Before the reading

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he

went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

Celebrant: We pray for strength to follow Jesus wherever God calls us, saying, Help us to follow.

Intercessor: Jesus said: 'Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant.' Savior, we hear your call. **Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Happy are the humble; they will receive what God has promised.' We pray for those celebrating this week: Debbie Pearson, Priscilla Hirschenhofer, Susan Wallace, Scott Weidel, Dominic Arguelles, Robin Sterckx and Joann Ruyak. Savior, we hear your call. **Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Be merciful as your Father is merciful; love your enemies and do good to them.' We pray for all of those in authority and those living in fear and danger, especially people living in places of war, conflict and natural disasters, and for all innocent lives lost. Savior, we hear your call. **Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Love one another, as I love you; there is no greater love than this, to lay down your life for your friends.' Be especially with those printed on our prayer list in the bulletin and any that we name now... Savior, we hear your call. **Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Go to people everywhere and make them my disciples, and I will be with you always, to the end of time.' We pray for ourselves and everyone who seeks to follow you, especially Bryce, our rector, Audrey, our bishop, Kevin, our assistant bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia and the churches and ministries of the Diocese of the Susquehanna; Savior, we hear your call. **Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'All who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.' We pray for all of those who have departed, remembering Frederick and Audrey Hentrich, Mary McIlvain Kutz and Ben Simon. Savior, we hear your call. **Help us to follow.**

Celebrant: God of mercy, you know us and love us and hear our prayer: keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin 360

The Peace 360

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

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

Prayers for the Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A from *The Book of Common Prayer*) 361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

All: **and also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The celebrant continues the Great Thanksgiving on page 361

The Sanctus

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

Celebrant: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant and People: **Christ has died**
Christ is risen
Christ will come again

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 363

The Lord's Prayer

364

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Invitation to Communion

364

Everyone is invited to receive. There will be two chalices for receiving: communion rail. 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

366

Celebrant: ...; and the blessing God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen**

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant and Homilist at 8AM and 10AM

The Reverend Bryce P. Wandrey

Altar Guild Team

Linda Jones (captain), Linda Lacey, Brittany Underkofler, Armani Rodriguez,
Amie Henderson and Julie-Anna Gonzalez

8am Service Participants

Lector and Intercessor

Rick Wolf

Usher

Ellen Sunderman

Communion Assistant

Ellen Sunderman

10am Service Participants

Organist and Choir Director

John Painter

Verger

Matt Hoelscher

Lector

Terry Rowles

Crucifer

Ian Hoelscher

Intercessor

Charlotte Hoare

Acolytes

Lauren Hoelscher and Ozi Abara

Communion Assistants

Milah Smith and Andrea
Griffith

Gospel Book

Andrea Griffith

Ushers

David Emes, Joann Hyneman, Garrett
Hyneman and Jack Lacey

Greeting Team

Brenda Guardian, Daniel Harris and Justin Skwiat

Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, PA

10am Holy Eucharist : Rite Two

Hymns can be found in the blue books labelled *Hymnal 1982* or the green books labelled *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. Page numbers on the right hand side of the bulletin refer to parts of the service that can be found in *The Book of Common Prayer* (the black book in the pews).

Prelude

Pastorale (excerpt)

Cesar Frank

Processional Hymn 522

Glorious things of thee are spoken

The Liturgy of the Word

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

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

The Collect for Purity (said together)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

David Thorne

Andante *mf*

Lord ____ have mer - cy, Lord ____ have mer - cy,

Christ ____ have mer - cy, Christ ____ have mer - cy.

Lord ____ have mer - cy, Lord ____ have mer - cy.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray

The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ 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: Romans 14: 1-12 (see page 4 for the text of the reading)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Hymn 653

Dear Lord and Father of mankind

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 (see page 4 for the text of the reading)

Before the reading

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord**

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed

358

The Prayers of the People (see page 5)

Intercessor: Savior, we hear your call.

All: **Help us to follow.**

Confession of Sin

359

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 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* (Sicilian Mariners)

The 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 (Prayer A from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

361

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

All: **and also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The celebrant continues the Great Thanksgiving on page 361

Sanctus

David Thorne

Moderato *mf*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might,

Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues the Great Thanksgiving on page 362

Celebrant: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
 Celebrant and People: **Christ has died**
Christ is risen
Christ will come again

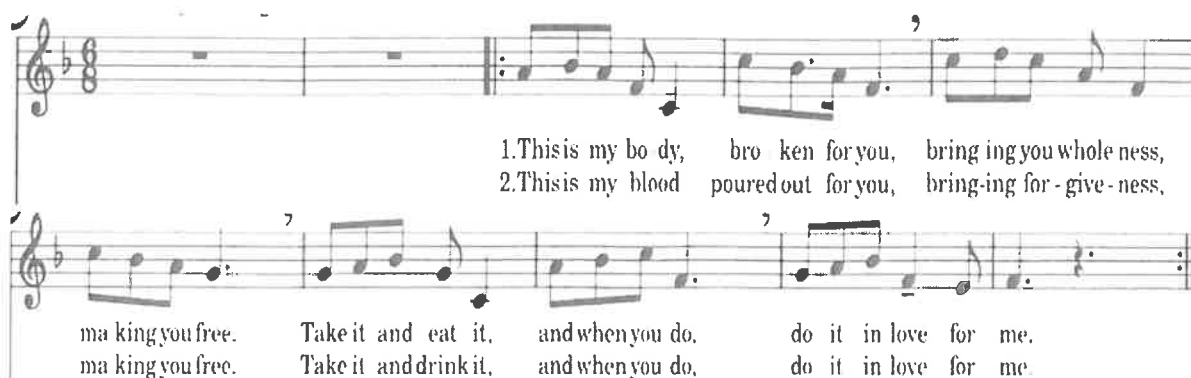
The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 363

The Lord's Prayer

364

The Fraction Anthem

Jimmy Owens



1. This is my body, broken for you, bringing you wholeness,
 2. This is my blood poured out for you, bringing forgiveness,
 making you free. Take it and eat it, and when you do, do it in love for me.
 making you free. Take it and drink it, and when you do, do it in love for me.

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. communion rail.

The Agnus Dei

David Thorne

mp
Lamb of God, you
mp
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
mp
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world, grant us peace.

The Communion Hymn 691

My faith looks up to thee

If Eucharist 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 Prayer

365

The Blessing

366

Celebrant: ...; and the blessing God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen**

The Closing Hymn WLP812

I the Lord of sea and sky

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Final (extrait)

Cesar Frank

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 for today are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Frederick and Audrey Hnetrich from their nieces and in Loving Memory of her mother, Mary McIlvain Kutz from Sidney McIlvain Kutz.

Lectern Flowers for today are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Ben Simon from Helen Peemoeller.



The ECW of Christ Church would like to announce the 2026 Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Shopping Event. For a \$5.00 donation, you get a pass for 25% most items for one day only, Wednesday, October 21 from 8AM to 11PM. Please see any ECW member for a ticket.



For those in need of our prayers....

Runette	Todd	Beverly	Mertz Family
Connie	Randall	Byron and Sherry	Randi
Ashley	Joshua	Darryl	Scott
Jaime	Grace	Joe and Ginny	Jeri
Nate	Amelia	Joshua	Terra
Cat	Meir	Randy	Cindy
Max	Kate	Kara	Jill
Nick	Donna	Lola	Sandi
M.J.	Lynn	Susie	Jim
Elizabeth	Lou	David	

Kindly submit any names you would 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 church.

The Covenant Cup

Join us for the second annual **Covenant Cup**, a friendly golf outing between Christ Church and Trinity Lutheran, held at Heidelberg Country Club on **Sunday, September 27th**, with a 1:00 PM shotgun start. This year, we are partnering with Habitat for Humanity. All proceeds from this event will go to support Habitat and their mission of providing quality, affordable housing to the people of Reading and Berks County. The afternoon will feature men's and women's longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests, followed by a celebratory banquet buffet. Final registration deadline is September 15th. Scan the QR code to register today!



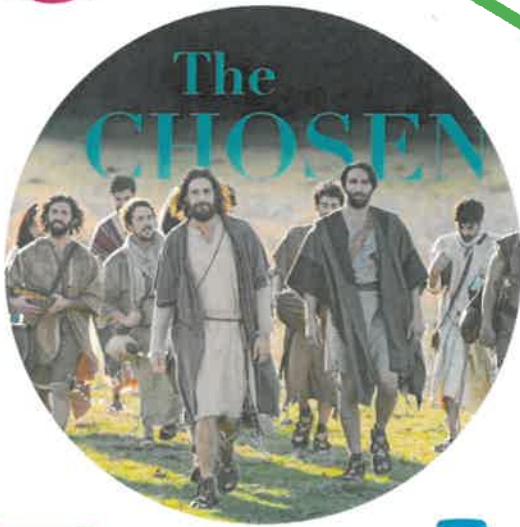
Regular Christ Church Office hours:

Monday: 8:00 am - 2:00 PM; Tuesday 8:00AM-12:30PM

Wednesday 8:00 am - 2:00 PM

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.

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.



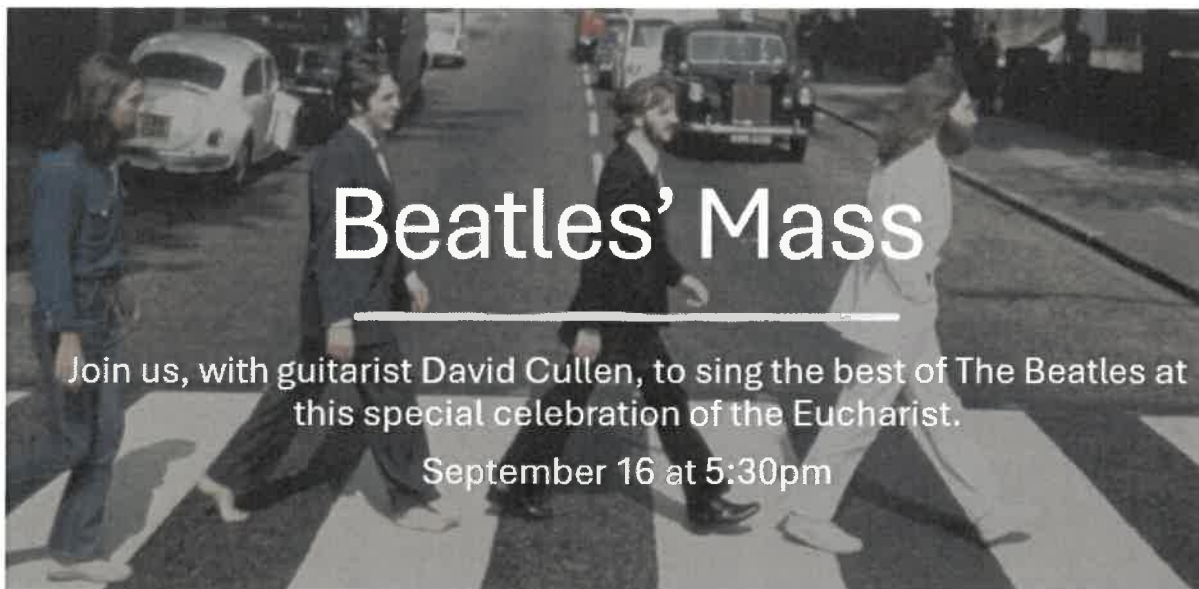
The Chosen People's Choice Awards

During our Adult Forum (9:05AM to 9:45AM) we are looking at the life of Jesus and his followers through [your chosen clips](#) from the TV show *The Chosen*. Please join us for this engaging way to delve into the life of our Lord as we continue in seasons 1 and 2 of the show.



The Fall Festival of the Arts continues its commitment to the City of Reading with six events celebrating the visual and performing arts. Go the webpage below for information and ticketing.

www.fallfestivalofthearts.org



Cover images:

Center: "Saint Paul Writing His Epistles" by Valentin de Boulogne (1591–1632)

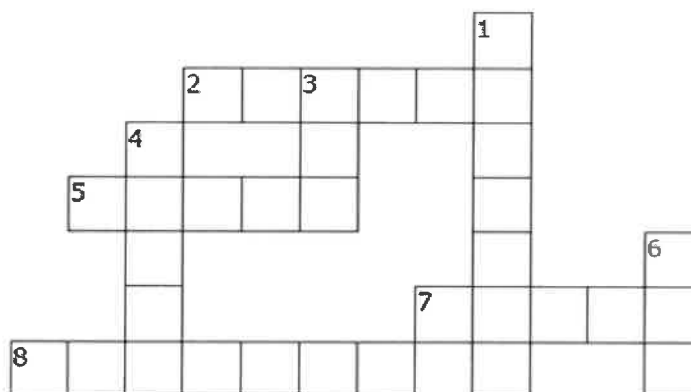
Bottom left: The shield of the Diocese of the Susquehanna

Bottom right: Line drawing of Christ Church, Reading

Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. Matthew 18:21-22 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 18:21-22



ACROSS

2. A statement given in reply to a question
5. The number that is equal to six plus one
7. The Son of God
8. To pardon someone for doing something wrong

DOWN

1. A male with the same parents as someone else
3. To break God's law
4. A fisherman who became one of Jesus' disciples
6. To seek an answer to a question

SEVEN BROTHER	ASK FORGIVE	PETER ANSWER	JESUS SIN
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Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" Matthew 18:21 (NLT)

Based on Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)



H S L B N L O R D L L P K L P
 B V I S I E X K L X W H S E W
 D S U P T B N G O I I B N L F
 F E Y Q I Z G C R T I M E S O
 R V C C M E Y G E V U L O C R
 X E M I E D S M A N Y Y I H G
 W N A H S U D N S M A Z C B I
 R Z I U S J K W C X R S Q H V
 C Z L E A X W W L P H O K Y E
 V S J I W H O C S M B P I E P
 C O O Y J D A J Y L H I Z W D
 Q F H P E T E R E V O F M D S
 S I N S P S P Y F E W U H Z V
 D N L W R B Q F I K Z D Q D W
 N B R O T H E R W A B U X K N

MANY SEVEN ASKED	SINS TIMES BROTHER	PETER JESUS LORD	FORGIVE TIMES HOW
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This Week at Christ Church
Sunday, September 13—The Sixteenth
Sunday after Pentecost

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum - The Chosen
10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)
11AM Acolyte training and Pizza Party
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, September 14
10AM-2PM Church Open Day
12PM—1PM NA meeting

Tuesday, September 15
930AM Centering Prayer
10AM Literacy Conversation Class
12PM—1PM NA meeting
6PM ESL Conversation Dinner

Wednesday, September 16
9AM Staff meeting
12PM Noon Eucharist
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
5:30-7PM NA Meeting
5:30PM Beate's Mass with David Cullen

Thursday, September 17
9:30AM Centering Prayer
9:30AM Bible Study
10AM Literacy Conversation Class
11AM Morning Prayer
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
5PM-6:30PM NA Meeting

Friday, September 18
12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, September 19
12PM-2PM NA meeting

Sunday, September 20—St. Matthew:
Apostle and Evangelist
8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9AM Ministry Fair
10AM Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers
(sung)
10AM Ministry Fair
4PM—5PM NA meeting
4PM Fall Festival of the Arts Concert at CCR

Upcoming Events

September 13 Sunday School resumes
Acolyte training and Pizza Party at 11AM
September 15 ESL Conversation Dinner at
6PM (Sign up near the chapel)
September 16 Beatles' Mass at 5:30PM
September 16 Choir rehearsal at 7:30PM
September 20 Ministry Fair at 9AM and
10AM
September 20 "A Dad's Love" Fall Festival of
the Arts concert 4PM at CCR
September 27 Covenant Cup Golf
Tournament 1PM
October 4 Blessing of the Pets 4PM
October 5 Lunchtime Concert with David
Cullen 12-12:30PM

