

Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 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

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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 12:1-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people

who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm 149

Hallelujah!

Sing to the Lord a new song;

sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in his Maker;

let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

Let them praise his Name in the dance;

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people

and adorns the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;

let them be joyful on their beds.

Let the praises of God be in their throat

and a two-edged sword in their hand;

To wreak vengeance on the nations

and punishment on the peoples;

**To bind their kings in chains
and their nobles with links of iron;**

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

The Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Before the reading

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

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

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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: Let us pray to the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son to give us life, saying, Lord graciously hear us.

Intercessor: Simon from Cyrene was forced to carry the cross for your Son. Give us grace to lift heavy loads from those we meet, especially those printed on the prayer list in our bulletin and any that we name now... Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Your Son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes. Transform the hearts of those who make a profit from their victims, and those whose hearts are hardened by their work. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The thief, who was crucified with Jesus, was promised a place in your kingdom. Give pardon and hope, healing and peace to all who look death in the face. We pray for those living in danger, especially those living in places of war and all innocent lives lost. Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

From the cross, Jesus entrusted Mary his mother and John his disciple to each other's care. Help us also to care for one another and fill our homes with the spirit of your love. We pray for those celebrating this week, John Helwig, Patricia Kelley, Dustin Cranmer, Giovanna Lundy, Marcia Smith, Bailey Allison and Cliff Buckwalter. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The centurion was astonished to recognize your glory in the crucified Messiah. Open the minds of those who do not know you to grasp in your Son the meaning of life and death. We pray for the Church and its mission in the world, especially for Bryce, our rector, Audrey, our bishop, Kevin, our assistant bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria and the churches and ministries of the Diocese of the Susquehanna. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph of Arimathea came to take your Son's body away. Give hope and faith to the dying and bereaved, gentleness to those who minister to them, and courage to those whose faith is secret, remembering Dolores Costa, Dorothy Chiachiaro and Richard S. Gabrielle. Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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

June Tull (Captain), Priscilla Hirschenhofer, Andrea Griffith and Sally Wilcox

8am Service Participants

Lector and Intercessor

Terry Rowles

Usher

Ellen Sunderman

Communion Assistant

Ellen Sunderman

10am Service Participants

Organist and Choir Director

John Painter

Verger

Kathleen Brantman

Lector

Victoria Wilson

Crucifer

Andrea Griffith

Intercessor

Diane Morris

Acolytes

Elliott Brantman and Alex Brantman

Communion Assistants

Kate Fanning and Chuck
Brantman

Gospel Book

Chuck Brantman

Ushers

Walt Frankowski, Doris Schilpp, Linda
Jones and Sherry Faust

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

Solitude

Edwin Lemare

Processional Hymn 518

Christ is made the sure foundation

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

The musical score for the Kyrie is written for a single melodic line in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It begins with the tempo marking 'Andante' and the dynamic 'mf'. The first staff contains the first four measures of the melody, with the lyrics 'Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy,' underneath. The second staff starts at measure 7, marked with a '7' above the staff, and contains the next four measures with the lyrics 'Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.' The third staff starts at measure 11, marked with an '11' above the staff, and contains the final four measures with the lyrics 'Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.' The dynamics 'mf' and 'mp' are indicated above the final two measures of the third staff.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray

The Collect of the Day

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; 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 13:8-14 (see page 3 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 674 *"Forgive our sins as we forgive"*

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20 (see page 3 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

The Nicene Creed

358

The Prayers of the People (see page 5)

Intercessor: Lord, hear us:

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

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

Sing a New Song

Daniel Shutte, arr. Douglas Wagner

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



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

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



The Communion Hymn WLP762 *I am the bread of life*

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 432 *O praise ye the Lord*

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prelude in G major

J.S. Bach

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.

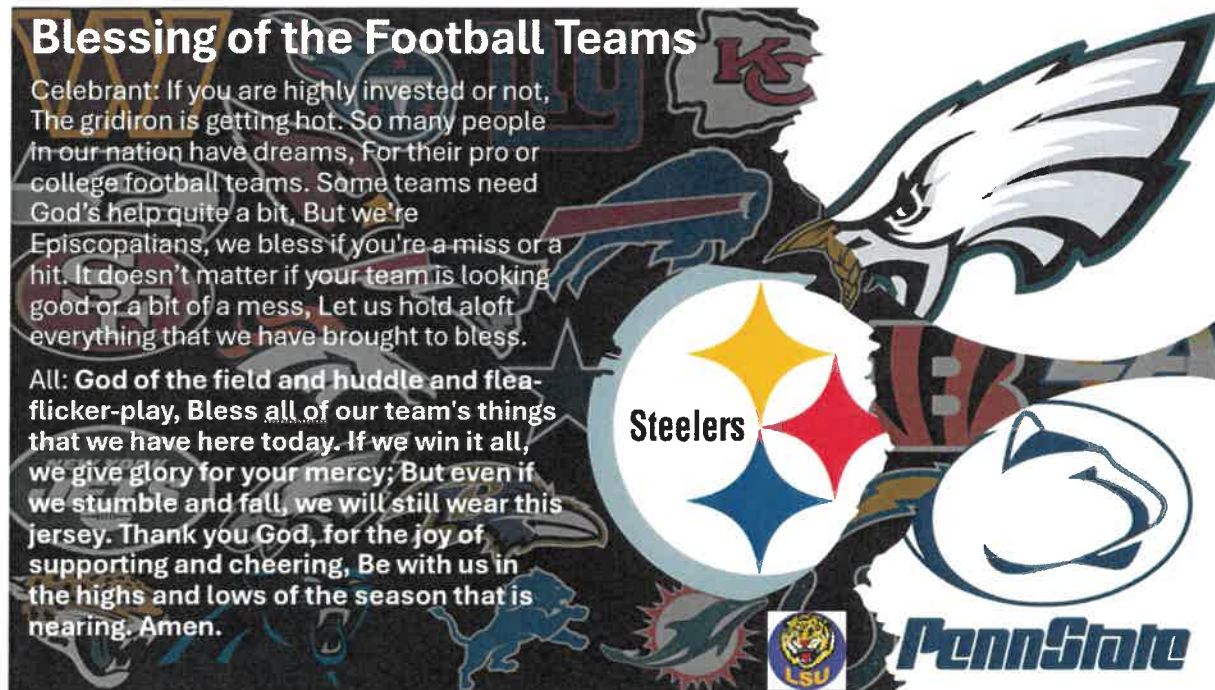
Altar Flowers for today are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Dolores Costa and Dorothy Chiarchiaro who perished in the attack on the World Trade Center on 9/11/2001 from Mary and Frank Arguelles.

And Given in Loving Memory of her cousin, Richard S. Gabrielle, who also perished in the attack of the WTC on 9/11/2001, given by James and Victoria Wilson.

Blessing of the Football Teams

Celebrant: If you are highly invested or not,
The gridiron is getting hot. So many people
in our nation have dreams, For their pro or
college football teams. Some teams need
God's help quite a bit, But we're
Episcopalians, we bless if you're a miss or a
hit. It doesn't matter if your team is looking
good or a bit of a mess, Let us hold aloft
everything that we have brought to bless.

All: God of the field and huddle and flea-
flicker-play, Bless all of our team's things
that we have here today. If we win it all,
we give glory for your mercy; But even if
we stumble and fall, we will still wear this
jersey. Thank you God, for the joy of
supporting and cheering, Be with us in
the highs and lows of the season that is
nearing. Amen.



For those in need of our prayers....

Runette
Connie
Ashley
Jaime
Nate

Todd
Randall
Joshua
Grace

Beverly
Byron and Sherry
Darryl
Joe and Ginny

Mertz Family
Randi
Scott
Jeri

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 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!



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.

Come check out the fall merchandise at the ECW rummage sale on September 9 from 10AM to 1PM.

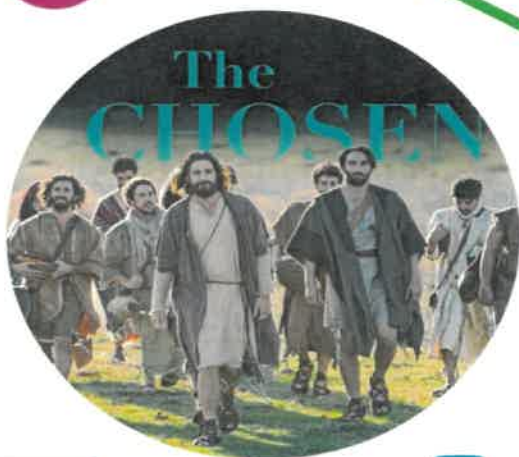
Regular Christ Church Office hours:

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

Beginning on August 30th during our Adult Forum (9:05AM to 9:45AM) we will be 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.



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: Stained glass (detail) from Christ Church, Reading

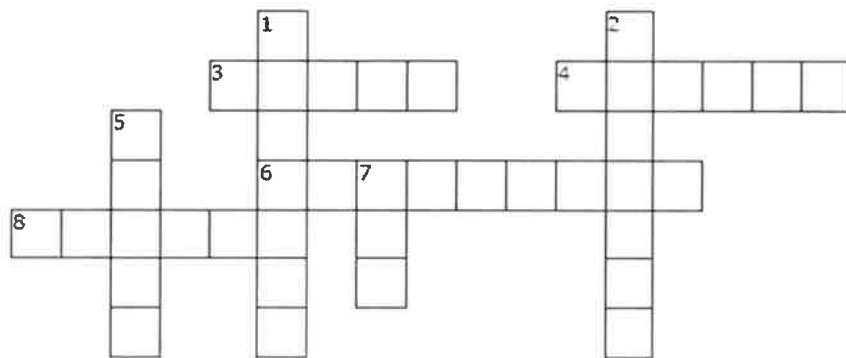
Bottom left: The shield of the Diocese of the Susquehanna

Bottom right: Line drawing of Christ Church, Reading

When Someone Hurts You

"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. Matthew 18:15a

Based on Matthew 18:15-20 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. A statement proven to be accurate
4. To pay attention; To make an effort to hear something
6. A spoken or written statement that something is true
8. All followers of Christ as a group

DOWN

1. A member of the same race, church, religious group, or organization
2. A person who sees an event happen
5. A quality in a person that shows that they are not perfect
7. Breaking a religious law

BROTHER	TESTIMONY	SIN	LISTEN
WITNESS	FAULT	CHURCH	TRUTH

When Someone Hurts You

"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. Matthew 18:15a

Based on Matthew 18:15-20 (NIV)



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

TRUTH
 AGAINST
 CHURCH
 YOU

HEAVEN
 EARTH
 WITNESSES
 AGREE

BIND
 SINS
 REFUSES
 TESTIMONY

FAULT
 LOOSE
 HEAVEN
 WON

FATHER
 SHOW
 LISTENS
 BROTHER

This Week at Christ Church
Sunday, September 6—The Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

8AM Holy Eucharist with Blessing of the Football teams (spoken)
9:05AM Adult Forum - The Chosen
10AM Holy Eucharist with Blessing of the Football teams (sung)
4PM—5PM NA meeting

Monday, September 7 Labor Day
Office closed
12PM—1PM NA meeting

Tuesday, September 8
930AM Centering Prayer
10AM-2PM Church Open Day
10AM Literacy Conversation Class
12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, September 9
9AM Staff meeting
10AM ECW Rummage Sale
12PM Noon Eucharist
12PM—1PM NA Meeting
2PM Christ Church at the Highlands
5:30-7PM NA Meeting
7PM Interfaith Service at Oheb Shalom

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

Friday, September 11
12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, September 12
12PM-2PM NA meeting

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

Upcoming Events

September 6 Blessing of the Football Teams 8AM and 10AM
September 9 ECW Rummage Sale 10AM to 2PM
September 9 Christ Church at the Highlands 2PM
September 9 Interfaith service at Oheb Shalom 7PM
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 20 Ministry Fair at 9AM and 10AM
September 20 "A Dad's Love" Fall Festival of the Arts concert 4PM
September 27 Covenant Cup Golf Tournament 1PM
October 4 Blessing of the Pets 4PM