

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost Liturgy of the Word

**August 9, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

The service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

Prelude

Opening Hymn 388

O Worship the King

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

People And blessed be God's kingdom now and for ever.

The Presider and People offer the Collect of 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.

Song of Praise

Lord Have Mercy S91

Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us. Lord, have mer-cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

1 Kings 19:9-18

Reader This reading from First Kings tells how God is made known to Elijah—not in wind, earthquake, or fire, but in a still, small voice.

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the Lord,

the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:8-13

- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

The Second Reading

Romans 10:5-15

Reader In this lesson, Paul teaches that the word of faith is a gift; by it, we make our saving confession that Jesus is Lord and that God raised him from the dead.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Reflection

Janet Parks

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we may all be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Silence is kept. The congregation is invited to add their personal intercessions silently or aloud.

Give to the departed eternal rest. We especially remember Rita and Donald Hannigan and Dennis Kash, for whom altar memorials have been given; and also Joseph & Irene Myette; Seth Sr. and Irene Kellogg, Seth Kellogg Jr.; and all those who have been killed by bombs, for whom the sanctuary lamp burns.

Silence is kept. The congregation is invited to add their personal intercessions silently or aloud.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

Silence is kept. The congregation is invited to add their personal intercessions silently or aloud.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Then the Presider says

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence is kept.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Anthem

Jesus Walked on the Water

1. Jesus walked on the water,
Jesus walked on the sea.
Peter got up, jumped out of the boat,
Landed in trouble up to his knees.
Peter saw the wind and started to sink
He cried to the Lord with a shout,
The Lord reached out and took his hand,
and said,
“Peter, why did you doubt?”

REFRAIN:

You can walk on the water
Just take it one step at a time.
You can walk on the water
Keeping your eyes on the Lord all the time.
You gotta learn to walk before you learn to run,
You got a way to go before your walkin's done.
You can walk on the water
Just take it one step at a time.

2. Jesus walked on the water
Just as easily as you please.
And He can walk right over
the things that we fear,
And calm the stormy seas.
Walking only offers two options
You can sink or you can swim.
But if you walk with the Lord one step at a
time, you can
Walk on the top with Him.

REFRAIN

Hymn LEVAS 109

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Spiritual Communion

Let us pray together in solidarity with those who are unable to receive communion in person this prayer of Spiritual Communion:

O God, we are united here in your transcendent power of love. From this center of goodness, you appear to us now in a new way, a new light, a new understanding, a new power of friendship and unity. We receive this life from you; we share this life together. You appear in our midst as Life itself, and we rise up together, beyond the resistant forces around us and within us. We receive you. This is the Body of Christ. Amen. — (Ilia Delio, OSF, adapted)

The General Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may we give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

PERMISSIONS

Except as noted within the text of the service leaflet: The structure and words of our service are taken from The Book of Common Prayer, Expansive Language; Enriching Our Worship; The Book of Occasional Services; Liturgy for the Whole Church, by Susan K. Bock, and Prayers for an Inclusive Church, by Steven Shakespeare; Hear Our Prayer by Jon White and Lisa Graves (all by Church Publishing). Today's Greeting and Call to Worship are from the World Council of Churches, Eco-School at the Orthodox Academy of Crete, Greece, 11-18 November 2023. The Biblical texts of the Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA. Hymns are taken from The Hymnal 1982, Lift Every Voice and Sing II, and Wonder, Love, and Praise (all by Church Publishing) and Songs & Prayers from Taizé, (GIA Publications, Inc.). Permission to print/post hymns for congregational use is granted by Rite Song and/or One License and permission to podcast/stream the music in this service is granted by One License: #A-723294.

ECOTA Happenings

August 9, 2026

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: 9:00am Worship & Holy Eucharist (in person & live-streamed)

No Wednesday Healing Services during August

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 | 4:30 pm @ Wash Works, 3 White Street, Westfield

Our Laundry Love ministry will be helping to provide free laundry services to low-income or no-income individuals and families (plus give them a good meal during the wash cycle) again this month. Volunteers are always needed. Check the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to find out what else you can contribute.

Westfield High School Community Closet Needs Clothing & Personal Hygiene Products

Students at the Westfield High School are again seeking donations of basic toiletries, T-shirts and other gently used clothing, new underwear and socks, personal care items, and personal care/hygiene items for its Community Closet (financial donations are also welcome). If you can help, place your donations in the plastic tote just outside the sanctuary door.

Western Mass Hospital Be a Star for a Senior

Beginning next week, on Sunday, August 9, our Compassionate Care Ministry will again begin its "Be a Star for a Senior" program. Next week, they will put up the "Star Tree." Choose a star from the tree and purchase the requested items for an elderly patient at Western Massachusetts Hospital who don't have nearby family. Members of the Compassionate Care Ministry will deliver your gifts to your star senior.

Westfield Farmers Market Church Table | Thursdays, June - October

We would like to show the community that ECOTA is a welcoming community, but we have not had enough volunteers to staff our Market Table. Can you help us greet visitors to the market and show them what a welcoming place ECOTA is? Do you have suggestions about how to make it easier to encourage volunteers to sit at our table? We'd love to hear your ideas!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you can volunteer to help with any of the jobs below, email the church office (program@atonementwestfield.org).

Sunday School Assistants for the Fall

We are looking for more Church School Assistants to help our Sunday School teaching leaders, Judy Harvester and Jean Brown, beginning in the fall. Church school resumes after Labor Day and volunteers would be asked to serve one or two Sundays per month. Volunteers help with setting up the classroom, supervising the students, distributing materials, and otherwise supporting the lead teachers.

Little Free Food Pantry: Pantry Filler Needed Saturdays

Do you have 15 minutes to spare on a Saturday morning? Join the Little Free Food Pantry Team! ECOTA's Little Free Food Pantry (LFFP) needs someone to fill the two outdoor food pickup boxes outside the side door of the church on Saturdays. You can choose the time (mornings are best) and all the food is provided. If you can carry groceries up and down stairs, you can do it!

Ushers

Our church ushers work with our greeters to make sure everyone is on the same page by welcoming people to the church, handing out leaflets, giving newcomers nametags, taking the offering, carrying the offering and the gifts to the altar to be blessed, closing the altar rail and setting the cushions for communion, and taking a headcount of how many people attend. If you have a warm smile and you can point people in the right direction, you're perfect for the job!

Summer Office Hours

MONDAYS:	Closed
TUESDAYS:	9:00 am – 2:00 pm
WEDNESDAYS:	9:00 am – 2:00 pm
THURSDAYS:	9:00 am – 2:00 pm
FRIDAYS:	Closed
SATURDAYS:	Closed
SUNDAYS:	Open before & after the 9am worship service

THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presiders	Janet Parks
Vestry Person of the Day	Sue Cole
Lectors	Tanya Kellogg, Kara Noble
Usher/Greeter	Linda Zielinski, Rich Howitt
Stream Team	Holly Rodriguez
Flower Guild	Chris Davis
Counters	Deb Bruno, Sue Cole
Office Angels	Linda Zielinski, Alice Ehresman
Opener	Kara Noble
Closer	Sue Cole

PARISH PRAYER LIST

*Please use this list in your daily prayers. We are happy to add your concerns.
Contact office administrator at program@atonementwestfield.org or call 562-5461.*

Altar Memorials are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Rita and Donald Hannigan and Dennis Kash.

Sanctuary Lamp burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Joseph & Irene Myette; Seth Sr. and Irene Kellogg, Seth Kellogg Jr.; and all those who have been killed by bombs.

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer for The Episcopal Church.

Diocesan Prayer for All Saints' Episcopal Church, South Hadley; the Berkshires Region & Dean of Clericus; the Episcopal Young Adults & Campus Ministry; and the Anglican Society.

For those suffering throughout the world especially from the ravages of war, violence, hate, environmental changes, and disease.

For these families and individuals Aidan, Jesse, Siobhan, Ginger, Ed, Barbara, Mike, Ann, Anne, Danny, Janet, Caroline, Liz, Chris, Caryl, Frank, Jenny, Mark, Sally, Fred, Sue, Hala, Tom, Michael, Mark, Jessica, John, Mark P., Jim L., Kate, Rick, Lee, Teresa, Candi, John, Coralee & Gemariah; Nancy, Tracy Davis; Lily and her parents, Leianne, Fran, Madeline, Debra, Brad, Colin, Bill, Jimmy, Billy, Les, Sally, Denise, Heather, Pearl, Lily, Bill, Jim, Kathy, Fred, Tom, Shannon, Joan, Deborah, Matt, Darlene, Rick & family, Anne, Ann, Jean, Ruth, Thelma, Connie, Candy, Jeff, David, Christina, Sharon, Marcia, Jan, John, Addison, Hannah, Donna, Jack, Mickie, Chris, Josh, Tim, Mike, Juan, John, Sheila, Ann, Gary, David, Sabrina, Wendy, Bernie, John, James, Jeffrey, Brittany, Rick

THIS WEEK AT ATONEMENT

Sunday August 9	Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Holy Eucharist (in person live-streamed) 6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15
Monday, August 10	5:00 pm <i>Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) (SMGR)</i> 8:00 pm <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
Tuesday, August 11	
Wednesday, August 12	6:00 pm <i>Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)</i> 7:00 pm <i>Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)</i>
Thursday, August 13	12:00-5:00 pm <i>Farmers Market</i> 7:30 pm <i>Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
Friday, August 14	7:00 pm <i>Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)</i>
Saturday, August 15	9:00 am <i>Adult Children of Alcoholics (Chapel)</i> 4:00 pm <i>Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)</i>
Sunday, August 16	Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Holy Eucharist (in person live-streamed) 6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

SMGR= Saint Margaret's Guild Room (Parlor)

"Drawn in by Grace; Reaching out in Love"

God calls people of any age, race, ethnicity, gender, or sexuality to join us in worship and work in the world. God's grace draws us in—all of us. And together all of us reach out with God's love.



The Episcopal Church of the Atonement

36 Court Street • Westfield, MA • 01085 • (413) 562-5461 • www.atonementwestfield.org

Drawn in by Grace • Reaching out in Love

The Rev. Sandi Albom, *Priest in Charge*

Jerry Noble, *Music Director*

The Rt. Rev. Miguelina Howell, *Bishop, The Episcopal Church of Western MA*

The Rt. Rev. Sean W. Rowe, *Presiding Bishop and Primate*

The Vestry

Holly Rodriguez, *Sr. Warden* ~ Robert Frazar, *Jr. Warden* ~ Steve Adams, *Treasurer* ~ Deborah Bruno, *Clerk*
Mike Ehresman, *Asst. Jr. Warden* ~ Sue Cole ~ Gene Giacometti ~ Phil Siska ~ Gail Meehan