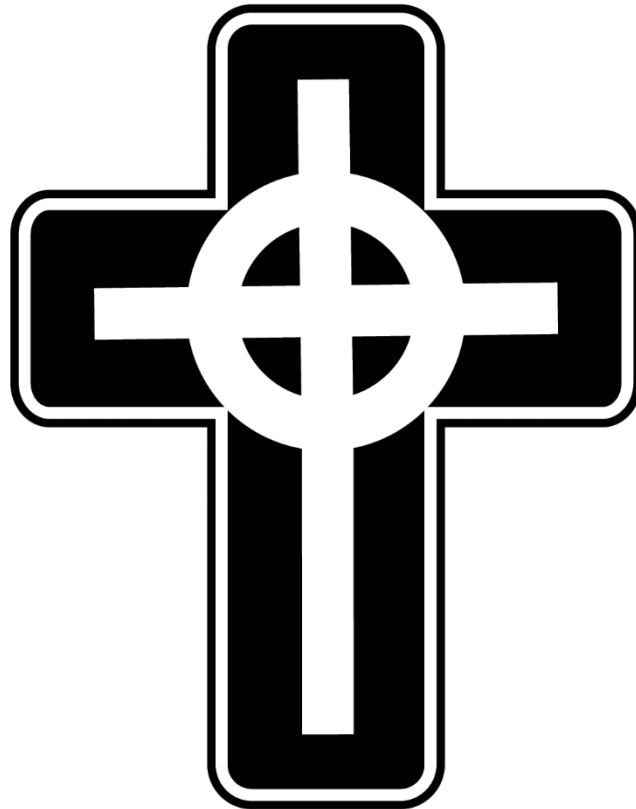


# **The Episcopal Church of the Atonement**



## **Worship and Holy Eucharist**

**Saturday, September 5, 2026  
5:00 p.m.**

*The service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.*

## Prelude

### Entrance Hymn 400

*All Creatures of Our God and 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 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.**

### The First Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7-11*

*Reader* In this reading, the prophet Ezekiel tells the people that it is the living God who calls them to cease sinning and find life. It is his responsibility to warn the wicked, but it is the individual's responsibility to stop sinning.

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 119:33-40

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,  
and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law;  
I shall keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments,  
for that is my desire.
- 36 Incline my heart to your decrees  
and not to unjust gain.
- 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless;  
give me life in your ways.
- 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant,  
which you make to those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread,  
because your judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments;  
in your righteousness preserve my life.

## The Second Reading

*Romans 13:8-14*

*Reader* In this lesson, Paul summarizes the heart of the law and urges a way of life in full awareness of the nearness of salvation. He reminds the people that all the commandments and all human responsibility for others are fulfilled by “loving your neighbor as yourself.”

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.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.  
*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Hymn 440

*Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word*

## The Gospel

*Matthew 18:15-20*

*Presider* 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."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sermon

*The Rev. Molly Scherm*

### 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 all those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 for whom altar memorials have been given; and Joseph & Irene Myette; Irene and Seth Kellogg Sr., Seth Kellogg Jr.; and all those who have been killed by bombs, for whom the sanctuary lamp burns.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

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

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 may add a closing collect.*

## **The Confession**

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen**

*The Presider says*

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

## **The Peace**

*Presider:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us greet one another with peace in the name of the Lord.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*When we gather, we are happy to receive an offering of "our life and labor," which we present to God. The ushers will pass the offering plate to receive your donations in person. You may also give online at [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) or scan the QR code located in the pew.*

**Offertory Anthem**

*At the River*  
*Sung by Suzanna Adams*

*arr. Copland*

Shall we gather at the river  
Where bright angel feet have trod  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God.

Yes, we'll gather by the river  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather by the river  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.  
That flows by the throne of God.

**Presentation Hymn 424**

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

**Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3**

*Old Hundredth, Isaac Watts*

**Sursum Corda**

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The Presider proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**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 Presider continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his friends and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*The Presider and the People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Presider continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit, may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are welcome to receive the presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. In the Episcopal Church we believe that God is uniquely present with us in the Bread and the Wine—and we also believe that receiving only Bread or only Wine does not limit God. Bread is offered in the form of a small wheat wafer. Gluten-free wafers (wrapped to prevent cross contamination) are available—ask for one if you need it. All are welcome to take a small sip from the Common Cup or you may intinct (dip the bread) into the cup. Please cleanse your hands with the alcohol-based hand cleanser in the dispensers at the foot of the stairs leading to the altar rail prior to receiving. Thank you.*

## 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)**

## Communion Meditation

*Simple Gifts*

*arr. Copland*

*After Communion, the People stand when the Presider says*

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## The Blessing

## Concluding Hymn WLP 778

*We Are All One in Mission*

## The Dismissal

*Presider:* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## 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 | Saturday, September 5, 2026

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*September 13 Worship Schedule: 8:00am Worship & Holy Eucharist | 10:00am Worship & Holy Eucharist  
10:00am Sunday School resumes*

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## **Return to Two Worship Services & Sunday School: Sunday, September 13**

Welcome to our Fall/Winter schedule! Next Sunday, September 13, we return to two services, the first at 8:00am and the second at 10:00am. We will celebrate Holy Communion with The Rev. Rick Bellows presiding. Sunday School also resumes during the 10:00am service on 9/13.

## **Prayer Chain Volunteers Needed**

ECOTA's Prayer Chain offers prayer support to anyone in the church who has an urgent need. You can "activate" our Prayer Chain by contacting the church office and requesting prayers. Prayer Chain volunteers contact each other to share the request and begin praying. If you believe in the power of prayer and you'd like to be a Prayer Chain volunteer, sign up in the Narthex and/or talk to Chris Davis or Dianne Legalos for more information.

## **Little Free Food Pantry Wish List Food of the Week**

This week the Little Free Food Pantry is in need of potatoes—canned, instant mashed, or any kind of boxed potatoes. Please place your donations in the basket in the Narthex.

## **ECOTA Coffeehouse ~ Tuesday, September 15 @ 10:30 am – 12:00 pm**

Good coffee (or tea). Good friends. Good music. Come join Jerry & Kara Noble for all three at our next **ECOTA Coffeehouse** on Tuesday, September 15 starting at 10:30am.

## **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group ~ Saturdays, September 19 & October 24 @ 10:00 am**

Love is woven in every stitch when our Knitting Group gathers to knit/crochet prayer shawls (and other items to warm hearts and hands and heads) to donate to local elder and wellness care facilities. Don't know how to knit? That's OK! They have all the necessary supplies, and our supportive members are happy to teach you. Contact Donna Tatlock Calkins for more information.

## **Women's Luncheon, Tuesday, September 22, 2026 | 12:00 pm**

Our next Women's Lunch will be on Tuesday, September 22 @ noon. Join us for an hour enjoying and pleasant lunch and a nice chat with friends. Theme TBA. Bring your own brown bag lunch; we'll provide beverages and treats. Sign up in the Narthex if you can join us.

## **Fall Rummage & Bake Sale ~ Friday, October 16 & Saturday, October 17**

**Friday, October 16, 4:00 pm-7:00 pm | Saturday, October 17, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm**

Preparations have begun for this Fall's Rummage & Bake Sale! We are accepting donations of clean, gently use items for the sale in the Great Hall in the basement. Appliances and other electrical equipment must be in working condition. **Please: NO flammable liquids, luggage, large furniture, golf clubs, or child car seats!** We're also looking for people to bake, and volunteers to help with everything from setting up through running the sales and then cleaning up after it's all over. Sign up sheets are available in the Narthex!

## **Westfield High School Community Closet Needs Clothing & Personal Hygiene Products**

Students at the Westfield High School are seeking donations of toiletries, T-shirts & other gently used clothing, new underwear & socks, and personal care & hygiene items for its Community Closet. Financial donations are also welcome. Place your donations in the tote just outside the sanctuary door.

## **Safe Church Training**

The Diocese has overhauled its Safe Church Training system for volunteers, staff, and clergy. The new system includes online training modules and a Zoom meeting with Safe Church trainers from the diocese. The online training modules are now available. If you would like to obtain Safe Church training so you can help with activities like Sunday School or Compassionate Care, or if you need to be recertified for Safe Church (recertification is required every three years), please contact the church office for more information.

## THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

|                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Presider</b>                 | The Rev. Molly Scherm         |
| <b>Music Director</b>           | Clifton J. Noble              |
| <b>Vestry Person of the Day</b> | Steve Adams                   |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>    | Sue Cole, Kathy DeJean        |
| <b>Lectors</b>                  | Sherrie Denison, Kathy DeJean |
| <b>Usher/Greeter</b>            | Jody Brown, Rich Howitt       |
| <b>Stream Team</b>              | Kara Noble                    |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>              | Linda Zielinski               |
| <b>Linens</b>                   | Dianne Legalos                |
| <b>Flower Guild</b>             | Donna Tatlock-Calkins         |
| <b>Counters</b>                 | Lesley Frazar, Kathy DeJean   |
| <b>Office Angels</b>            | Kathy DeJean, Alice Ehresman  |
| <b>Opener</b>                   | Jan Parks                     |
| <b>Closer</b>                   | Kara Noble                    |

## 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](mailto:program@atonementwestfield.org) or call 562-5461.*

**Altar Memorials** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of all those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

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

**Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer** for The Diocese of Bentiu – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

**Diocesan Prayer** for St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Springfield; Human Resources & Compliance Specialist, Susan Olbon; and the National Episcopal Historians & Archivists

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

**For these families and individuals** Nyla, Ginny, Victoria, Lucas, 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 September 6** Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
**NO SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE THIS WEEK**  
*(Services this week were on Saturday, Sept 5 at 5pm. Videos of Saturday's service are available on Facebook & YouTube.)*  
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15
- Monday, September 7** 8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)
- Tuesday, September 8**
- Wednesday, September 9** 6:00 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)  
7:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)
- Thursday, September 10** 12:00-5:00 pm Farmers Market  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (no bells this week)  
7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)
- Friday, September 11** 7:00 pm Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)
- Saturday, September 12** 9:00 am Adult Children of Alcoholics (Chapel)  
4:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)
- Sunday, September 13** Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
8:00 am Worship & Holy Eucharist (in person)  
10:00 am Worship & 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](http://www.atonementwestfield.org)

*Drawn in by Grace • Reaching out in Love*

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