

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Worship Services

*Please observe silence during the musical prelude.
The 10:00 a.m. service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.*



On All Saints' Sunday, **November 2, 2025**, we will read the Necrology, a list of loved ones who have departed this life.

We will use last year's list as a starting point; copies of the 2024 Necrology will be posted in the Narthex.

If you wish to add the names of other loved ones to be read this year, complete and return the form in this leaflet. Print as clearly as you can and offer pronunciation help if necessary.

Please return this form no later than October 29.

Prelude

Entrance Hymn 372

Praise to the Living God

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
People And blessed by God's kingdom now and forever. Amen.

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.**

Sung at 8:00 & 10:00 am

Song of Praise

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord
God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y_ God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the
sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; 5. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our
prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 7. You a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

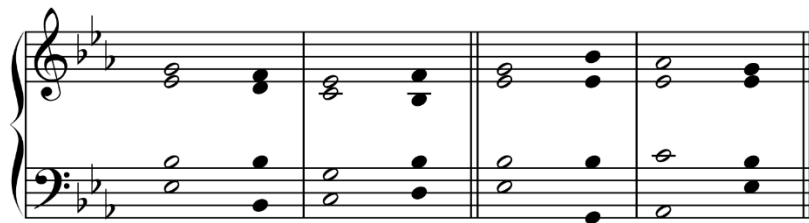
Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis. This story tells how Jacob, on the night before his confrontation with his brother Esau, wrestles all night with a figure he comes to recognize as coming from God.

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

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

Spoken at 8:00 am. Chanted at 10:am.

Psalm 121



- 1 I lift up my eyes to the **hills**; *
From where is my help to **come**?
- 2 My help comes from the **Lord**, *
The maker of heaven and **earth**.
- 3 He will not let your foot be **moved** *
And he who watches over you will not fall a/sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over **Israel** *
Shall neither slumber nor **sleep**;
- 5 The Lord himself watches **over you**; *
The Lord is your shade at your right **hand**,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by **day**, *
Nor the moon by **night**.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all **evil**; *
It is he who shall keep you **safe**.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming **in**, *
From this time forth for ever/**more**.

Reader A reading from the second letter to Timothy. In this reading, Paul exhorts Timothy to continue calmly and diligently with his ministry teaching from the scriptures and preaching the word of God.

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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

Sung at 10:am.

Gospel Hymn 626

Lord, Be Thy Word My Rule

The Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

Presider The Holy Gospel of Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

Sermon

The Rev. Sandi Albom

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

In peace we pray to you, Lord God. (*Silence is kept.*)

Creating and sustaining God, in faith we lift our voices to you that we might be transformed by your love saying, “Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.”

We pray for the church, that it may manifest your grace and mercy in the world. We pray especially for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Sandi, our Priest; and all other bishops, ministers, and spiritual leaders.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our nation, that it might fulfill its promise and be a nation where people know justice, peace, and the opportunity to thrive.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly, that we might be a place where each of us can discover our call and find ways to minister together as the body of Christ. You are invited to add your own petitions and thanksgivings, silently or aloud, at this time.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the natural order, that the abundance and diversity of creation might be preserved through our choices and advocacy.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray in gratitude for the great joys and many blessings we have received.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the dead and the dying, that they might fulfill your will for them and rest in the glory of your eternal love. We pray especially in memory of Laurie, Ruth, Norman, Bruce, James, and John Oyler, for whom the sanctuary lamp burns; that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own prayers silently or aloud at this time.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Presider may add a concluding Collect.

The Confession

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 the grace of 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.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Great Thanksgiving

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

Sung at 10:00 am

Offertory Anthem

*Lift Thine Eyes
(from Elijah)*

Music by Felix Mendelssohn

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes
To the mountains,
Whence cometh help.
Thy help cometh from the Lord
Who made heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved
Thy keeper will never slumber.
Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes
To the mountains,
Whence cometh help.

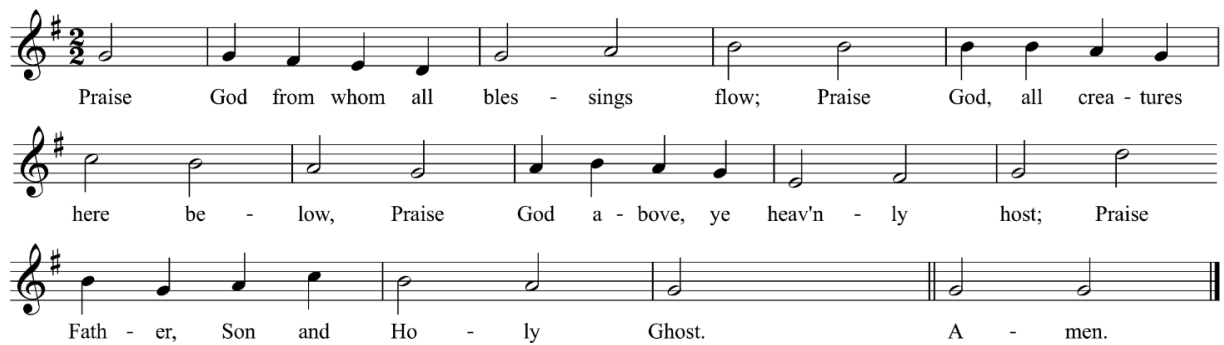
Sung at 8:00 & 10:00 am

Presentation Hymn LEVAS 178

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3

Old Hundredth, Isaac Watts



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 God thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Spoken at 8:00 am. Sung at 10:00 am.

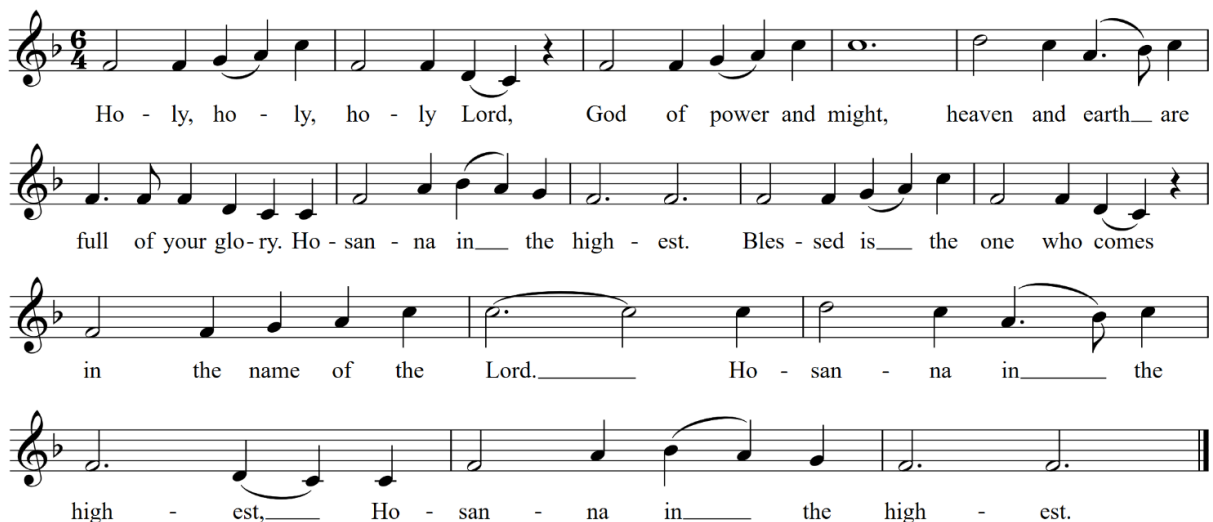
Sanctus WLP 858

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



Setting: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner; harm. Anna Morris Buchanan (1889-1983) © Church Pension Fund

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 for ever. Amen.

Spoken at 8:00 & 10:00 am.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

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. Both wine and grape juice are available—ask for juice if you prefer 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.

Communion Meditation

After Communion, the People stand when the Presider says

Let us pray.

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that these gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Concluding Hymn 535

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

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.

THE MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider	The Rev. Sandi Albom
Opener	Josh Veléz
Linens	Lisa Reinhagen
Flower Guild	Tanya Kellogg
Sunday School	Judy Harvester, Kara Noble
Counters	Deb Bruno, Lesley Frazar
Office Angels	Kathy DeJean, Alice Ehresman
Closer	Kara Noble

	8:00 am	10:00 am
Altar Guild	Linda Zielinski	
Greeter(s)	Linda Zielinski	Samantha Hemmingsen
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Josh Veléz	Sue Cole Karen Newman
Lector(s)	Josh Veléz	Ray Brown Laura Smith
Usher(s)	Linda Zielinski	Deb Curtis
Stream Team	NA	Holly Rodriguez

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 loving memory of Edward and Florence Palmer.

Sanctuary Lamp burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ruth, Norman, Bruce, James, and John Oyler.

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer for the Episcopal Church.

Diocesan Prayer for the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Westborough; The Episcopal Chaplaincy at Western Massachusetts Regional Women's Correctional Center; Daily Bread Food Pantry, Milford; and Gideon's Garden, Great Barrington.

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

For these families and individuals Douglas Anthony, Elizabeth, Tom, Michael, Gail, Mark, Jessica, John, Ray, Chris, Richard, Uncle Billy, 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, Samantha, Jimmy, Billy, Les, Sally, Denise, Heather, Pearl, Sandy & George, 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, Katie, Sherry, Niko, Mervin, Frances, Toby, Theresa, Philadelphia, David, Jean, Jonathan, Natalie, Lisa, Jacques, Elaine, Tracey

THIS WEEK AT ATONEMENT

Sunday, October 19

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person*)
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person & live-streamed*)
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

Monday, October 20

5:00 pm *Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) (SMGR)*
5:30 pm *Girl Scouts*
8:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

Tuesday, October 21

6:00 pm *Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)*
12:00 pm Women's Luncheon
7:00 pm Bridge Fellowship

Wednesday, October 22

12:15 pm Healing Service & Holy Eucharist
1:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study
7:00 pm *Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)*

Thursday, October 23

12:00-5:00 pm *Farmers Market*
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
7:30 pm *Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

Friday, October 24

7:00 pm *Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)*
9:00 am- 5pm Rummage Sale

Saturday, October 25

4:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*
9:00 am- 5pm Rummage Sale

Sunday, October 26

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
8:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person*)
10:00 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. Douglas J. Fisher, *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* ~ Gene Giacometti, *Treasurer* ~ Deborah Bruno, *Clerk*

Mike Ehresman, *Asst. Jr. Warden* ~ Bonnie Adams ~ Raymond Brown ~ Sue Cole

Tanya Kellogg ~ Phil Siska ~ Josh Vélez

ECOTA Happenings: October 19, 2025

Monthly Drop-In Grief Support Group ~ Beginning Sunday, October 19 from 12:00 – 2:00 pm

A grief support group allows time and space to share our common, yet different journeys on this path of grief and bereavement towards healing and peace. This group is for all bereaved and grieving individuals who are looking for a welcoming, confidential, and non-judgmental conversational grief support group. Our first meeting will take place on Sunday afternoon, October 19 in the Saint Margaret's Guild Room. We will meet monthly; our next two sessions are planned for **November 16** and **December 14**. For more information, contact Josh Vélez (velez.olv@gmail.com or (413) 386-4707.

Women's Luncheon ~ Tuesday, October 21, 2025 @ 12:00pm

Join us for our next Women's Luncheon on Tuesday, October 21 at 12:00 pm in the St. Margaret's Guild Room. Let's come together to share a good meal, good conversation, and good company—it will lift your spirits! Bring a brown bag lunch and we'll provide beverages and treats. Sign up in the Narthex.

Brown Bag Bible Study ~ Wednesday, October 22 @ 1:00 pm

Brown Bag Bible Study continues next week as we continue reading Paul's first letter to the young church in Corinth. Please read Chapters 13-16 before we meet on Wednesday, October 22 after the 12:15pm Healing Service.

Support the Laundry Love Program on October 22

Laundry Love offers free laundry services to low-income or no-income individuals and families; it also provides a good meal for participants while their clothes are in the machines. This month, Laundry Love could use bottles of water, sandwiches, detergent pods, dryer sheets, and volunteers to help at Laundry Central on October 22 (a shift is from 4:10-6:45 pm). Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or contact Holly Rodriguez for more information.

Rummage & Bake Sale Session ~ Only One Weekend Left!

Friday, October 24, 9:00 am-5:00 pm (bag sale) | Saturday, October 25, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (bag sale)

Our annual Fall Rummage & Bake Sale is off to a great start, but there are plenty of super deals to be had next weekend! Next weekend is the "bag day" super sale—everything that fits in a shopping bag for one very reasonable price! If you are talented in the kitchen, we could use more baked goods for next weekend. If you can help with that, let Donna know.

Musical Quotations, Tributes & Transformations: A Fundraising Concert with Pianist Danny Holt ~

Saturday, November 1 @ 7:30 pm

This concert in support of the church & its ministries highlights the creative and playful ways that composers borrow from one another, including Godowsky's inventive and virtuosic reworking of Chopin etudes, Heller's transcription of Schubert's *Erlkönig*, Crumb's dream-like meditation on Chopin, Satie's playful parody of Clementi, and more. The concert is free; donations will be accepted.

Compassionate Care Ministries Information Meeting ~ Sunday, November 2 after 10 am worship

Everyone can use a little support every now and then—and our Compassionate Care Ministry is there to offer it! Would you like to help? Would you be willing to talk to a person who'd like visit people, make calls, or send cards? Our Compassionate Care Ministry would love to have your help! If you'd like to know more about how you can lend a hand, attend our information meeting after the 10am service on Sunday, November 2!

Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program ~ Month of November 2025

ECOTA's Outreach Ministries have been selected as a nonprofit partner in the Stop & Shop *Bloomin' 4 Good Program* for the month of November. **That means the church will receive \$1 for every specially market \$11.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet that is sold at their store at 57 Main Street in Westfield during November.** They tell us the store typically sells about 80 of those bouquets per month, but we're pretty sure we can raise their average to support ECOTA! Put a trip to Stop & Shop to get a Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet on your calendar for next month!

Book Group Reader Info ~ *The Years of Ripening* by Joyce Rupp

Our book group is reading *The Years of Ripening* by Joyce Rupp. It focuses on personal transformation, the wonder and goodness of our hidden self, how the qualities of our personhood have been expressed, and in what ways we can claim ever more of the truest reality of our inner being. Rupp is a member of the Servite (Servants of Mary) community and the codirector of the Boundless Compassion program. She is well known as a writer, spiritual midwife, international retreat leader, and conference speaker. We'll read the book over the next few weeks and meet to discuss it in late October.

New Bishop Slate & Petition Process Announced:

The Standing Committee of the Diocese has announced a slate of three candidates to serve as our 10th Bishop Diocesan:

- **The Rev. Susan B. Fortunato**, *Rector, Christ Episcopal Church, Poughkeepsie, New York*
- **The Very Rev. Dr. Marcus George Halley**, *Chaplain to the College and Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life at Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut*
- **The Very Rev. Miguelina Howell**, *Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford, Connecticut*

There will be candidate meet-and-greets scheduled between November 4-6. The new Bishop will be elected at the Diocesan Convention November 14-15 at UMass Amherst. Visit the Diocese website for more information:

<https://www.diocesewma.org/bishop-search-and-transition>
