# The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



## Youth Sunday

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

November 9, 2025 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

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

#### **Entrance Hymn 413**

New Songs of Celebration Render

Presider Blessed be the one holy and living God.
People Glory to God for ever and ever. 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 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.



#### The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

The First Reading

Haggai 1: 15b - 2:9

Reader A reading from the Prophet Haggai. In this reading, the prophet Haggain summons Zerubbabel, the governor of Judah, and Joshua, the high priest, to attend to the reconstruction of the temple in Jerusalem, which was laid to waste fifty years earlier.

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

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

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

#### Psalm 149



- 1 I will exalt you, O God my **King,** \* and bless your Name for ever and **ever.**
- 2 Every day will I **bless you** \* and praise your Name for ever and **ever.**
- 3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be **praised**; \* there is no end to his **greatness**.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to an/other \* and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your **majesty** \* and all your marvelous **works**.
- 18 The Lord is righteous in all his ways \* and loving in all his works.
- 19 The Lord is near to those who call u/pon him, \* to all who call upon him faithfully.
- 20 He fulfills the desire of those who **fear him;** \* he hears their cry and **helps them.**
- 21 The Lord preserves all those who **love him**, \* but he destroys all the **wicked**.
- 22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the **Lord**; \* let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and **ever**.

Reader

A reading from the second letter to the Thessalonians. This letter was written partly to correct a misunderstanding about the "day of the Lord," which some early Christians feared had already arrived. It seeks to calm their fears and make them more sure of God's grace and more confident of their standing in the Lord.

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

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

Sung at 10:am.

Gospel Hymn 188

Love's Redeeming Work Is Done

The Gospel Luke 20:27-38

Presider The Holy Gospel of Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."

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

**Sermon**The Rev. Peter Courtney

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 became 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. We pray for our delegates and the Bishop candidates as they gather on November 15 at the Diocesan Convention.

#### 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 loving memory of everyone Richard and Doris Tierney, for whom altar memorials have been given; and especially in memory of Pasquale H. Casetta, Mary Hilner, Marion "Amy" McGilpin, and Russell W. McGilpin, 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 or scan the QR code in the pews.

**Youth Song** 

I'm Gonna Lift My Sister Up

Faya Ora Rose Toure

I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy If I don't lift her up — if I don't lift her up If I don't lift her up — I will fall down.

I'm gonna lift my brother... I'm gonna lift my mother... I'm gonna lift my father... I'm gonna lift my people...

**David Frazier** 

I need you, you need me;
We're all a part of God's body.
Stand with me, agree with me;
We're all a part of God's body.
It is His will that every need be supplied
You are important to me, I need you to survive
You are important to me, I need you to survive

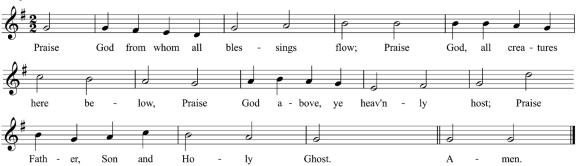
I pray for you, you pray for me; I love you I need you to survive. I won't harm you with words from my mouth; I love you, I need you to survive.

Sung at 8:00 & 10:00 am **Presentation Hymn 64** 

O Heavenly Word, Eternal Light

#### 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 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 in the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race this is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

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

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

#### Sanctus WLP 858

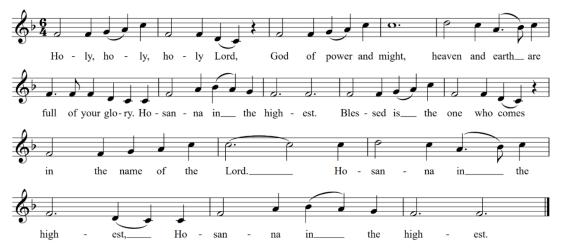
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

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

We give thanks to you, O God for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all, in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command O Father:

The Presider and the People

We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.

#### The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice and praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for 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. Glutenfree 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 alcoholbased hand cleanser in the dispensers at the foot of the stairs leading to the altar rail prior to receiving.

#### **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**

After Communion, the People stand when the Presider says

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Blessing

#### Concluding Hymn WLP 801

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

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. Peter Courtney

OpenerGail MeehanLinensDianne Legalos

**Torch Bearers** Gabriel Burke, Chase Hart

Flower Guild Kara Noble

**Sunday School** Judy Harvester, Claudia Turner, Irene Ring

Nursery Care Tammy Joseph

Coffee HourSuzanna and Steve AdamsCountersSue Cole, Alice EhresmanOffice AngelsDeb Bruno, Jan ParksCloserHolly Rodriguez

	8:00 am	10:00 am
Altar Guild	Linda Zielinski	Alice Ehresman
Greeter(s)	Chris Steger	Samantha Hemmingsen
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Kara Noble	Sue Cole Phil Siska
Lector(s)	Kara Noble	Rachel Burke Gabriel Burke
Usher(s)	Chris Steger	Steve Adams
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 <a href="mailto:program@atonementwestfield.org">program@atonementwestfield.org</a> or call 562-5461.

Altar Memorials are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Richard and Doris Tierney.

**Sanctuary Lamp** burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Pasquale H. Casetta, Mary Hilner, Marion Amy McGilpin, and Russell W. McGilpin, for whom the sanctuary lamp burns, that they may all have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer for the Church in the Province of the West Indies.

**Diocesan Prayer** for Christ the King – Epiphany, Wilbraham; Secretary of Convention, Wende Wheeler; North Berkshire Community Action; and the Pioneer Valley Project.

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, November 9 Twenty-Second 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, November 10 5:00 pm Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) (SMGR)

5:30 pm Girl Scouts

8:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)

Tuesday, November 11 12:00 pm Women's Luncheon

6:00 pm Music Together (SMGR)

6:00 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)

7:00 pm Bridge Fellowship

Wednesday, November 12 12:15 pm Healing Service & Holy Eucharist

1:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study

7:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)

**Thursday, November 13** 6:15 Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (Great Hall)

Friday, November 14 124<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention

7:00 pm Stairway to Serenity Al-Anon (SMGR)

Saturday, November 15 124<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Convention

9:00 am-3pm Harvest Market (entire church) 4:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)

Sunday, November 16 Twenty-Second 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 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 November 9, 2025**

#### Ecumenical Drumming Circle ~ This Afternoon, Sunday, November 9 | 4:30-5:30 pm

This afternoon our friends at First Congregational Church (18 Broad St., Westfield) will be hosting a free drumming circle for all ages run by Janet St. Jean, who introduced the fun of drumming at our last Kids Night Out. Drums will be provided and no experience is necessary; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call 413.568. 2833.

#### Westfield Friends for Peace ~ Monday, November 10 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

On Monday, the day before Veterans Day, join friends and neighbors for a community gathering from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Park Square in Westfield, in support of veterans and for peace. Together, we'll stand in witness for peace, unity, and hope in our world. Please note: this is a non-political event—we ask that participants bring only signs and messages that speak for peace. All are welcome. Come as you are, and bring a friend.

#### Women's Luncheon ~ Tuesday, November 11 @ 12:00 pm

Join us for our next Women's Luncheon on Tuesday, November 11 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, November 12 @ 1:00 pm

Our next Brown Bag Bible Study will be an introduction to Paul's second letter to the young church in Corinth. If possible, please read Chapters 1-5 before we meet on Wednesday, November 5 after the 12:15pm Healing Service.

Pastoral Compassionate Care Ministry Meeting ~ Sunday, November 16 after the 10:00 am Service Members of the Pastoral Compassionate Care Ministry will come together after church next Sunday to plan it activities for the coming season. Would you like to help with activities like sending cards and visiting. Please join us in the Saint Margaret's Guild Room after worship on November 16 if you are interested.

#### Grief Support Group ~ Sunday, November 16 @ 12:00 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. We will meet monthly in the Chapel. For more information, contact Tanya Kellogg, Bonnie Adams, or Lyn Casey.

#### Quilt Raffle ~ Now through December 14

Chelsea Weir has generously donated a beautiful handmade quilt to be raffled in support of ECOTA's Compassionate Care Ministry. Photos of this beautiful quilt are available on the church website and Facebook page. All funds raised will help our Compassionate Care Team support individuals in the church who are not able to attend church, but who want to stay connected to our healing and loving community. Tickets for the raffle are \$5 each or three tickets for \$10, and they can be purchased after worship services or in the church office. The winner will be drawn on Sunday, December 14.

#### **Support the Laundry Love Program on November 26**

Laundry Love offers free laundry services to low-income/no-income individuals and families; it also provides a good meal for participants while their clothes are in the machines. There's a sign-up sheet for this month in the Narthex—sign up if you can provide food, water, or laundry supplies, or if you can volunteer (a shift is from 4:10-6:45 pm). Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or contact Holly Rodriguez for more information.

#### Farmers Market's Annual Harvest Market ~ Saturday, November 15 from 11am-3pm

Preparations are under way for the first annual Harvest Market, put on by the organizers of the Westfield Farmers Market! The Harvest Market will take place on Saturday, November 15th, from 11-3 in the Great Hall @ ECOTA, offering handmade craft and artisanal items from a wide variety of talented local vendors.

#### 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 at a date Wednesday, November 19 @ 4:30pm.

#### Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service ~ Tuesday, November 25 @ 6:30 pm

First Congregational Church of Westfield (18 Broad Street), in partnership with Second Congregational Church, ECOTA, First United Methodist Church, The Interfaith Center at Westfield State, and Southwick Congregational Church) will host our Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 6:30 PM. Let's join together to give thanks to Almighty God for all gifts bestowed on us in a service of Word, Prayer, and Song.

#### Hospitality/Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Thank you to everyone who signed up to be a hospitality/coffee hour host for November. We are now looking for Hospitality Hosts for December. Hosts provide a tasty treat (like cookies), and a beverage (such as lemonade and/or coffee and tea). They set things up on the table in the Narthex and clean up after our community gathering ends. If you can host a gathering this fall, sign up (on your own or with a friend) in the Narthex.

#### Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services ~

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24 @ 4:00 pm & 9:00 pm

Christmas Morning: Thursday, December 25 @ 9:30 am

Planning for Christmas already? Yes! This Christmas Eve, ECOTA will have its Family Worship Service at 4:00pm. The Evening Worship Service will start with a substantial musical prelude; the service itself will begin at 9:00pm. On Christmas morning, we will meet for a Worship Service at 9:30 am.