

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

9:00 a.m.

*Please observe silence during the musical prelude.
The service is live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook.*

Prelude

Entrance Hymn LEVAS 218

Jesus Loves Me

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

by Clifton J. Noble

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

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

— Lord, have mer-cy Lord, have mer-cy, 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.**

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

Psalm 33: 12-22

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven,
and beholds all the people in the world.
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze
on all who dwell on the earth.
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them
and understands all their works.
- 16 There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army;
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
for all its strength it cannot save.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him,
on those who wait upon his love,
- 19 To pluck their lives from death,
and to feed them in time of famine.
- 20 Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him,
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us,
as we have put our trust in you.

Reader A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

Gospel Hymn

Michael, Row the Boat Ashore

Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah

Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
The River Jordan is chilly and cold, hallelujah
Chills the body, but not the soul, hallelujah

Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
Jordan River is deep and wide, hallelujah
Milk and honey on the other side, hallelujah

Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah
Michael row your boat ashore, hallelujah

The Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

Hymn Singalong

Everybody!

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

Let us pray with confidence in a faith that is alive with the wonder and awe of new life all around us:
We trust in our all-loving God.

Fill our hearts with gratitude for our many blessings and for the love and joy you give us.
We trust in our all-loving God.

Embolden Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Sandi, our Priest; and all other church leaders with your grace that they may proclaim your truth and minister your justice with compassion.
We trust in our all-loving God.

Inspire all our local, state, and national leaders to speak with truthfulness and govern with mercy.
We trust in our all-loving God.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, put away from us all hurtful things and give us those things which are beneficial for us as a nation and as a world.
We trust in our all-loving God.

Through your merciful guidance, O God, may we act to benefit those who are in need within our communities.
We trust in our all-loving God.

Almighty God, grant that those who suffer and those who are faced with great difficulties may know the healing dimensions of your mission here on earth.

The congregation is invited to add their personal intercessions.

We entrust all those who call out to your care.

We trust in our all-loving God.

We are joined together in unity of spirit with those who have died. We especially remember Donald & Rita Hannigan and Dennis Kash, for whom altar memorials have been given; and Peter and Irene Myette for whom the sanctuary lamp burns.

We trust in our all-loving God.

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 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 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.

Presentation Hymn

Take Our Bread (see music below)

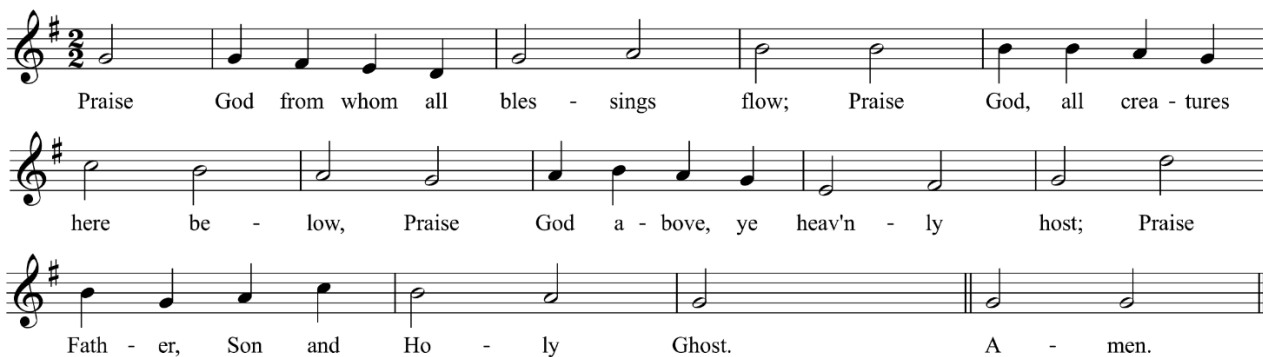
TAKE OUR BREAD, WE ASK YOU, TAKE OUR HEARTS, WE LOVE YOU, TAKE OUR LIVES, O FATH-ER WE ARE YOURS, WE ARE YOURS.

YOURS AS WE STAND AT THE TA-BLE YOU SET YOURS AS WE EAT THE BREAD OUR HEARTS CAN'T FOR-GET,
YOU HO-LY PEO-PLE STAND WASHED IN YOUR BLOOD, SPIR-IT-FILLED YET HUN-GRY WE A-WAIT YOUR FOOD

WE ARE THE SIGNS OF YOUR LIFE WITH US YET: WE ARE YOURS, WE ARE YOURS, TAKE OUR
POOR THOUGH WE ARE, WE HAVE BROUGHT OUR-SELVES TO YOU WE ARE YOURS, WE ARE YOURS.

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.**

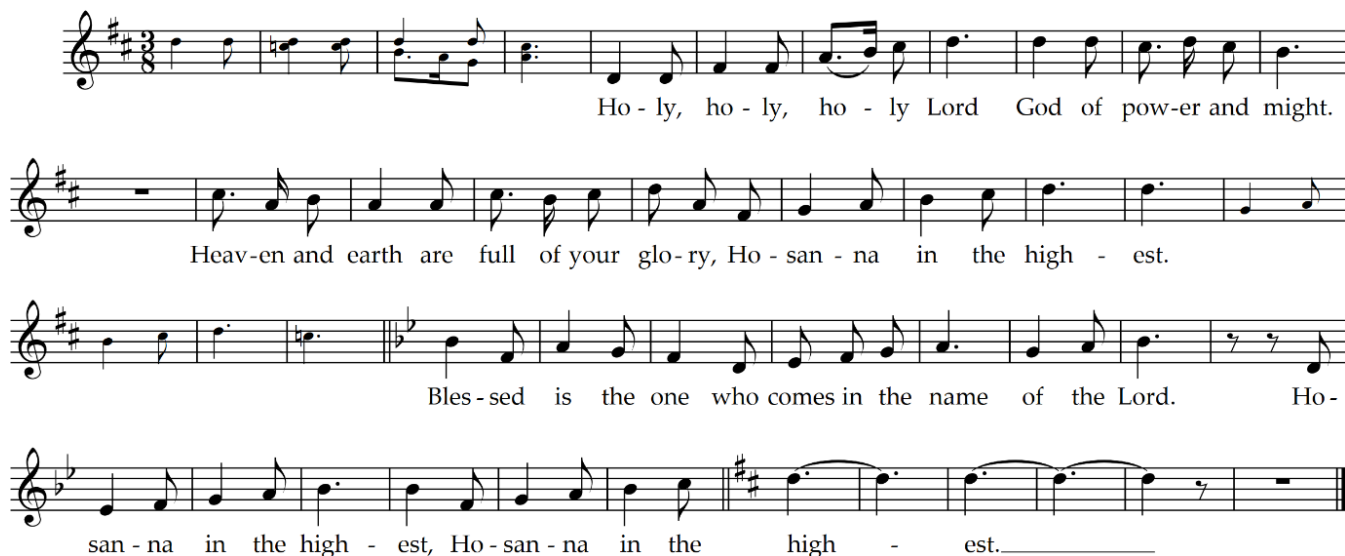
The Presider proceeds

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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:

Sanctus

by Clifton J. Noble



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 in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread

by Clifton J. Noble

Je - sus, lamb of God, You take a-way the sins of the world

Have mer-cy on us. Je - sus, lamb of God, You take a-way the sins of the world,

have mer - cy on us, Je - sus, lamb of God, You take a - way the

sins of the world, Grant us your peace.

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. 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 LEVAS 152

Let Us Break Bread Together

After Communion, the People stand when the Presider says

Let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Concluding Hymn

Kum Ba-Yah

Kum Ba Yah, My Lord — Kum Ba Yah
Kum Ba Yah, My Lord — Kum Ba Yah
Kum Ba Yah, My Lord — Kum Ba Yah
O, Lord, Kum Ba Yah

2. Someone's cryin' Lord...
3. Someone's prayin' Lord...
4. Someone's singin' Lord....

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 |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Kara Noble, Sue Cole |
| Lectors | Judy Harvester, Kara Noble |
| Ushers | Jody Brown |
| Greeter | Samantha Hemmingsen |
| Stream Team | Deb Curtis |
| | |
| Altar Guild | Gail Meehan |
| Linens | Debbie Bruno |
| Flower Guild | Donna Tatlock-Calkins |
| Counters | Alice Ehresman, Sue Cole |
| Office Angels | Jan Parks, Debbie Bruno |
| | |
| Opener | Gail Meehan |
| Closer | 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 or call 562-5461.*

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

Sanctuary Lamp burns to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Peter and Irene Myette.

Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer for The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

Diocesan Prayer for Trinity Church, Shrewsbury; the Hampden Region & Dean of Clericus; the Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless, Worcester; and Worcester Interfaith.

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

For these families and individuals Jessica, John, Ray, Chris, Richard, Uncle Billy, Mark P., Jim L., Kate, Rick, Lee, Teresa, Candi, John, Coralee & Gemariah; Nancy, Tracy Davis; Al, Kassia and Jesse; 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 August 10

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 am Holy Eucharist (*in person & live-streamed*)
11:00 am Intergenerational Picnic
6:00 pm Sunday Worship on Westfield Channel 15

Monday, August 11

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

Tuesday, August 12

6:00 pm *Adult Children of Alcoholics (Little Chapel)*
7:00 pm Fellowship Bridge Holy Eucharist (*Sanctuary*)

Wednesday, August 13

12:15 pm Healing Service & Holy Eucharist
7:00 pm *Overeaters Anonymous (SMGR)*

Thursday, August 14

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

Friday, August 15

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

Saturday, August 16

4:00 pm *Alcoholics Anonymous (Great Hall)*

Sunday, August 17

Tenth 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. 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

August 10, 2025

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Summer Schedule: One Sunday service @ 9:00am

Tuesdays: Bridge Fellowship, 7pm | Wednesdays: Healing Service & Holy Eucharist, 12:15pm

Intergenerational Potluck Picnic ~ Today after Worship

Join us for another wonderful Intergenerational Potluck Picnic! There will be fun-filled activities for all ages! Bring your favorite dish to add to the tasty fare we will all share. We will meet on the front lawn of the church after the worship service.

Book Group Book Discussion ~ Tuesday, August 12 @ 4:00 p.m.

Our book group will meet in the Saint Margaret's Guild Room on Tuesday, August 12 at 4:00 pm to discuss *Four Red Sweaters* by Lucy Adlington, a story of four Jewish girls during the Holocaust, each of whom had a red sweater that played a major part in their lives.

Bridge Fellowship: A Community of 12-Step Spirituality for Everyone ~ Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Looking for a way of living that works? Curious about 12-Steps? Seeking a welcoming community of faith and discovery? Bridge Fellowship offers all that and more! We meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm. On the first and third Tuesdays of each month we have a healing service with music and fellowship. On the second and fourth Tuesdays, we join in a prayer circle with reading, discussion, sharing, and fellowship. If there are five Tuesdays in the month, we'll use the fifth one for Dinner Church! Our next gathering is Tuesday, August 12. We hope you'll join us!

In the Boat with Jesus ~ Wednesday, August 13 @ 7pm on Zoom

In a season of turmoil—within the world, our country, our communities, and even our families and churches—how can being in the boat with Jesus calm our souls? Join Rev. Sandi for a time of prayer, honest and respectful conversation, and shared reflection. Together, we'll explore how Jesus invites us to respond with faith instead of reacting in fear, finding peace in his presence even in the midst of the storm. Our first conversation will be on Zoom; we'll talk about the best plan for future sessions as part of the discussion. If you'd like to participate, sign up in the Narthex and we will email you the Zoom meeting link.

Women's Luncheon ~ Tuesday, August 19, 2025 @ 12:00pm

Save the date for our next Women's Luncheon! We'll get together for lunch and conversation on Tuesday, August 19 at 12:00 pm in the St. Margaret's Guild Room. Theme TBA. Bring your own brown bag lunch and we'll provide beverages and treats. Sign up in the Narthex.

Support the Laundry Love Program on August 27

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, detergent pods, dryer sheets, and volunteers to help at Laundry Central on August 27 (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 Raffle Baskets

Got the munchies? Then you need our Snack Attack Raffle Basket! It's chock-full of tasty treats to calm those munchies and keep the hangries at bay! The winner of the Snack Attack Basket will be drawn on Thursday, August 14 at the Farmers Market. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5; you can purchase them in the church office or at the ECOTA table at the Market.