THE 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 10, 2023

We pray that all who enter the Church of the Holy Comforter experience God's presence in this community of faith, a community that through Christ strives to be loving, joyous, inclusive, and transforming and filled with God's grace.

The Church of the Holy Comforter welcomes you to this service. This service leaflet, The Book of Common Prayer (red), The Hymnal 1982 (blue), Wonder, Love, and Praise (green), and Lift Every Voice and Sing (black) provide the resources needed for participation in our worship. The hymns which begin with an “S” are in the front of The Hymnal 1982. Unless noted by either “WLP” or “LEVAS” the hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982. We hope that you will feel at home at Holy Comforter and will return again soon and often.

WELCOME TO HOLY COMFORTER!

- **Guest Book** ~ Our guest book is located on a stand at the back of the church. If you are new to Holy Comforter, please sign the guest book. We are so glad that you are worshiping with us today!

- **Receiving Communion** ~ To receive, stand or kneel around the Holy Table, simply hold your hands palms up and the priest or deacon will place a piece of bread in them. To receive wine from the chalice, assist the chalice bearer by holding the base and helping to guide it to your lips. We will offer one chalice from which to drink and one for intinction, dipping the bread into the wine. Please avoid touching the wine with your fingers. If you do not wish to receive the bread or the wine, we welcome you to receive a blessing—to indicate this, please cross your arms on your chest. Gluten-free bread is available; simply ask the clergy.

- **Votive Candles** ~ You may light a candle at the votive stand in the back of the church. Votive candles may be lit before, during, or after the service.

- **Child Care** ~ Our youngest children, newborns through 4 years old, are cared for in our nursery located next door in the Parish House. Ushers can guide you. Even our youngest children are welcome to remain with us in the church for the service if preferred. Enjoy our baby/toddler/young child area in the pews.

- **Restrooms** are located in this building behind the choir area; go out the doors by the Earth banner and turn left. One of the restrooms contains a baby-changing station. Ushers can guide you. Additional restrooms are in the parish house, the building right next door.

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements

Hymn

Wonder, Love, and Praise #746   God the sculptor of the mountains    Sandria

Opening Acclamation

Presider    Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People     Glory to God for ever and ever.

Blessing of our Children, Birthdays and Anniversaries.
Children may then go to Children’s Chapel or return to sit with their families.

Song of Praise    Children’s Prayer    Nicholas

For this new morning with its light, for rest and shelter of the night, for health and food, for love and friends, for every gift your goodness sends we thank you gracious Lord, amen;
we thank you gracious Lord, amen.

The Collect of the Day

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

Oremos.

Concede, oh Señor, que confiemos en ti de todo corazón; porque, así como tú siempre resistes a los soberbios que confían en su propia fortaleza, de la misma manera jamás abandonas a aquéllos que se glorían en tu misericordia; por Jesucristo nuestro Señor, que vive y reina contigo y el Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading ~ Exodus 12:1-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the
lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water; but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149  Give praise to the Lord

Laudate Dominum

Note the very last phrase, “praise for aye.” The word is pronounced “I” and can mean “yes” or “yes sir” (aye aye). As an adverb, however, it also means “always, continually, and forever.”

The Second Reading ~ Romans 13:8-14
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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn**

*Hymnal 1982* #440  
_Blessed Jesus, at thy word_  
*Liebster Jesu*

**The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 18:15-20**

*Deacon*  
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.”

*Deacon*  
The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

_A period of silence follows the sermon_

**The Prayers of the People**

*Deacon*  
Blessed God, whose love calls the whole creation into covenant with you, and who puts in our hands responsibility for the care of the earth and its creatures: we pray for all to whom you have given life and being, saying, “Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.”

*Leader*  
For the well-being of the earth; for its resources of water, air, light, and soil, that they may be tended for the good of all creatures, we pray:

*People*  
**Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.**

*Leader*  
For the waters of the earth; for their careful use and conservation, that we may have the will and the ability to keep them clean and pure, we pray:

*People*  
**Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.**

*Leader*  
For the mineral and energy resources of the planet, that we may learn sustainable consumption and sound care of the environment from which they come, we pray:

*People*  
**Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.**
Leader For the animals of the earth, wild and domestic, large and very small, that they may know the harmony of relationship that sustains all life, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.
Leader For the creatures of the earth who do us harm and those whose place in your creation we do not understand or welcome, that we may see them as beloved creatures of God, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.
Leader For all who shape public policies affecting the planet and its creatures that they may consider wisely the well-being of all who come after us, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.
Leader For all those engaged in conservation, in agriculture and ranching, in aquaculture and fishing, in mining and industry, and in forestry and timber-harvesting, that the health, fruitfulness, and beauty of the natural world may be sustained alongside human activity, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.
Leader For the creatures and the human beings of your world who are ill, or in danger, pain, or special need, and for all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth’s resources or their devastation by war; that all may one day live in communities of justice and peace, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.
Leader For the gifts of science and technology and for those who practice these skills, that they may be wise, visionary, and compassionate in their work, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.
Leader For the creatures and the people of the earth whose lives and deaths have contributed to the fruitful abundance of this planet, we pray:
People Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

Additional Prayers are offered.

Presider Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things for you live and reign with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

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

Absolution said by the priest
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 the Lord be always with you.
People
And also with you.

Offertory Anthem
Come now, O Prince of peace
O-so-so
Please consider supporting God’s ministry through Holy Comforter. You may leave your offering in the plate that will be passed or use our Virtual Offering Plate https://hocorya.churchcenter.com/giving

Presentation Hymn
For the life that you have given

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer C  Book of Common Prayer
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 continues and the people respond with the words in bold

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. Glory to you for ever and ever. At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. By your will they were created and have their being. From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight. Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed. And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:
And so, God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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." "Tomen y coman: Este es mi cuerpo, que se entrega por ustedes. Hagan esto en memoria mía". After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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." "Beban todos: Esto es mi sangre de la nueva alianza, que por ustedes y por todos se derrama para el perdón de los pecados. Cada vez que lo beban, hagan esto en memoria mía".

Remembering now Christ’s work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, 
We celebrate his death and resurrection, 
as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our ancestors: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Tamar, Rahab, and Ruth; God of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.
Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

*Presider*  
Oremos como nuestro Salvador Cristo nos enseñó en el lenguaje de nuestros corazones.  
As our Savior Christ has taught us, let us pray to God, who is our Divine Parent, our Mother,

*All*  
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 forever. Amen.

**The Breaking of the Bread**

* A period of silence is kept. Then all sing  
_Hymnal 1982 #S152_

**Hymn at Communion**

*Wonder, Love, and Praise #831  Ubi Caritas  Ubi Caritas*

**Postcommunion Prayer**

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**

God of the galaxies, God of the starburst and sunlit morning, God of the forest and shining seas, God of the blooming desert and rolling grasslands – shine on us today and bless us with your presence, Creator, Christ, and Holy Comforter.

**Hymn**

*Hymnal 1982 #527  Singing songs of expectation  Ton-y-Botel*

**Dismissal**

*Deacon*  
Go in peace to love and serve God’s Creation.

*People*  
**Thanks be to God the Creator.**

_HoCo acclamation of joy_

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Music permissions: The following music is used by permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net #A-725321

| "For the life that you have given" Words: Carl P. Daw. Music: Beach Spring. ©1990 Hope Publishing Company | Con las debidas licencias. Música © 1993, Joaquín Rodríguez y la Arquidiócesis de Miami. |
Serving Today

Presider ~ The Rev. Dr. Hilary Borbón Smith  
Preacher ~ The Rev. Dr. Hilary Borbón Smith  
Assisting ~ The Rev. Deacon Joseph G. Klenzmann  
Director of Music Ministry ~ Jim Bennett  
Altar Guild ~ Sue Taylor, Stephanie Roberts-Turner, Peggy Homsb  
Vestry Person of the Day ~ Lian-Marie Holmes Munro  
Readers ~ Carol Gibbs, Diane Gilkenson  
Intercessor ~ Laura Hunt  
Eucharistic Minister ~ Anne Snyder  
Crucifer ~ Liam Davis-Vojta  
Acolytes ~ Abie Richardson, Benjamin Raymond  
Ushers ~ Steve and Kipley Herr  
Bread Baker ~ Leslie Smith  
Streaming Director ~ Evan Herr  
Connection Time ~ help needed  
Children's Chapel ~ Ron Cox

Prayers of the Community

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church of Ireland.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Incarnation (Mineral); St. Bartholomew's (Richmond); St. Francis' (Manakin-Sabot).

We pray for our bishops Mark Stevenson and Gayle Harris, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, and our parish clergy, Hilary, Joe, Briggett, Heather, and Frank.

For healing in our parish: Kathy MacAlister; Maria Scott; Carleen Penny; Joan Vaughn; Mark Skolnick; Carol Gibbs; Gayle Turner; Marie McGranahan-Turner; the Hawes Family; Bonnie Steffey; Barbara Crowder.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Emily Chilton Souder and Brad Souder, and Charlie and Samuel.

Pray for our family members and friends: Larry Rhoades (husband of Joella Rhoades); Charlie Dowsett (cousin of Susan Boze); Missy Lovewell (sister-of-choice of Kath Ruggeri); Deb York (sister of the Rev. Katherine Dougherty); María Carmen Calderón Viuda de Hencke (mother of Eugenia Hencke Calderón); Liz Turner (friend of Anne Snyder); Rev. Ursula Shone and Dr Eric Albone (friends of John Kerr); John and Leslie Wilson (son and daughter-in-law of Larry and Sheila Wilson); James (Heather Baggett's grandfather); Gary and Brenda Davis (grandfather and great-aunt of Livi Davis); Mary Page Jones (friend of Joella Rhoades); Sarah McFather and Danny and Ben (friends of Maria Scott); Edgar Martin Mullins (uncle of Laura Patillo); Gary Land (friend of Anne Snyder); Stephen and Iralin Peple (friends of Anne Snyder); Joey (sister of Patty Galdun); Strother Mosley, Leistra Waldrop, Phil Loomis, Doug Meador, and Bill Murray (friends and relatives of Joe and Darlene Klenzmann); Michele (sister of Patty Galdun); Mary Lewis (mother of Angie Palmer); Lee and Don Switz (friends of Anne Snyder); John Martin (friend of Anne Snyder); Lauren Breeze; Erin Tagupa (mother of Briana Vineyard); Charlie Dowsett (cousin of Susan Boze); Dana Kenner (friend of Lisa Lettau); Marguerite Alley (friend of Susan Boze); Matt Williams (friend of Anne Snyder); Bill and Lola Custis (cousin of Mary Davis); Hal (friend of Anne Snyder); Eleni (granddaughter of John Kerr); Sarah (sister of Ellen Hall); Sarah Rogers (sister of Ellen Hall); Dr. DiAnne McAllister (cousin of Doug Thorpe); Louis and Marti Williams (friends of Cherie Miller); Bob Martin (friend of Cindi Hanayik); Martha Craddock (friend of Sue Taylor); Jeff Adams (brother-in-law of Lisa Lettau); Sydney Kelley (friend of Liam Davis-Vojta); Nancy Tate (friend of Christ Family); Steve Place (friend of Christ Family); Ruth Cassady (grandmother of Chris Richardson); Jim Hosek (brother-in-law of Doug Thorpe); Bob Daraio (friend of Gayle Turner); Heather Macias (friend of Cherie Miller); Cyndi Dour (friend of Peggy Homsb); Scott Terry (neighbor, friend of Leslie and Bill Smith); Leland Stockwell (friend of Mary Thorpe); Teresa Heath (friend of Larry and Sheila Wilson); Kate (daughter of Sue Taylor's friend); Eliza Rogers (niece of Ellen Hall); Ursula Smith (friend of Bonnie and Gary Steffey); Tammy Shackelford (family of Deb Love and Carol Gibbs); Jeannette Miller (sister of...
Patty Sheldon); Bill Chewning (father of Kim Chewning-McCarthy); Nancy Chittum (friend of Patty Galdun); Lydia Johnson and Family (friends of Patty Galdun); Mary Ruth Terry (mother of Christine Garcia); Ella Shaffer Hicks (niece of Patty Galdun); Thomas Quigley (friend of George Collier).

We give thanks for the life of Paul W. Herr, father of Steve Herr, and we pray for all who are grieving.

We pray for all leaders of national and local government, especially Joe and Kamala, Glenn, and Levar.

We pray for an end to racism and anti-Semitism.

We pray for all who have Covid and for those who have died from the virus. We give thanks for those who care for the sick, for those who have developed medicines and vaccines, and for those who continue to do so.

Metro Richmond at Prayer: We pray for schools and educational institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For all public, private and religious schools; for students, teachers and support personnel, including cafeteria workers, building and grounds staff, and school bus drivers; for all, pre-schools and daycare centers, and for children in home schools.

Pray for Thomas Jefferson High School and Franklin Military Academy, and their students, faculty and staff.

🌟 Happenings at Holy Comforter 🌟

Parish Retreat, a few spaces are still available ~ Join us for fun and time together on the mountain! Our Diocesan retreat center, Shrine Mont, is located in Orkney Springs VA. The program this year will focus on CREATION! Let’s learn and talk about Creation Care, Eco Justice, and Spiritually around our love of our earth and all its creatures. As well as time together, there will be many chances for personal time. The cost includes all meals and activities, such as hiking, walking the labyrinth, and all that we will do together. Adults, double occupancy, $172.00 each; Adults single occupancy, $224.00; Children age 4 - 12, $110.00; Children infant to 4 years old, no cost to attend. We do not want the cost to keep anyone away who wants to attend; scholarships are available. Register here https://tinyurl.com/ecv9sv8t

Good Samaritan Sunday, Social Justice and Outreach ~ On the first Sunday of the month, we focus on our Food Pantry, celebrating the work that we do and the people we serve. You are invited to bring food for our food pantry friends to the Altar Table during or right after the Offertory Anthem. Our next Good Samaritan Sunday will be October 1.

Food Pantry, Social Justice and Outreach ~ The pantry can use any non-perishable food (except homemade), and we particularly need: Breakfast cereal, Canned entrées (for example, beef stew, chili), Pasta sauce, Canned beans. We can also take refrigerated food as long as the expiration date is at least a week out. Non-food: paper towels, other paper goods, toiletries. We also need paper bags, with or without handles. We do not need plastic bags. We cannot distribute used clothing, although new, packaged clothing can be given away. A list of needs that is updated periodically can be found on hoco.org. If you’d like to donate, you can bring your food to the altar on Good Samaritan Sunday or drop it off at the pantry when the building is open. Thank you HoCo for your continuing support of our neighbors!

New Photo for our Directory Requested ~ Please send a photo of you/your family to directory@hoco.org Thank you!
Connection Time ~ Please consider hosting our coffee hour/Connection Time. Instructions for the coffee machine are posted in the kitchen. Coffee and water are requested. Light snacks are welcomed but not required. Use the Signup Genius to volunteer. Thank you.  
Signup Genius

Lectionary Study ~ Join us on Zoom, at 4 pm, on Thursdays. The Zoom link is found on our website, hoco.org. We consider the biblical readings for the coming Sunday. Our rector, Hilary, leads this time of reflection and discussion. This is a great way to prepare for Sunday! We have fun and wide-ranging discussions of how the readings speak to us in the context of our lives, politics, social issues, and more. Background information is also provided so that we understand the context of the readings – what they meant long ago to people whose circumstances were so different from ours.

Sunday Morning Class ~ The Sunday Morning Adult Class resumed today; we meet every Sunday from 8:45-9:45 a.m. in the Parlor. Our new curriculum is The History of Christianity II: From the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch. The presenter is Dr. Molly Worthen, associate professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a freelance journalist. The primary focus of this 36-lecture DVD-based course is to place Christianity in its historical context as it transforms from a relatively homogenous entity at the end of the Middle Ages into the diverse global religion of today. Presentations will explore the basic ideas (and paradoxes) of Christian theology; see how these ideas are embedded in real life; introduce some of history’s most fascinating characters; and see how secular modernity and globalization have transformed Christianity. Class participants receive a weekly email with optional read-ahead material; on Sunday the class views a 30-minute video, followed by wide-ranging discussion.  
All are welcome: join us anytime to ‘taste and see’!! Contact: Peggy Hombs.

Monday Night Class on Zoom resumes tomorrow ~ The Monday Evening Adult Class will resume on Monday, September 11th, from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom. (The Zoom link is found on the Holy Comforter website homepage.) The class will begin this fall with a brand-new curriculum The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner’s Guide to the Good News from an old favorite, Dr. Amy-Jill (“AJ”) Levine. In this 6-part DVD-based course, “AJ” focuses on the earliest Gospel, examining John the Baptist, the Little Apocalypse, the Transfiguration, and several of Jesus’ stories and parables (The Cursing of the Fig Tree, The Wicked Tenants). Class participants receive a weekly email with optional read-ahead material; on Monday the class views a 30-minute video, followed by a wide-ranging discussion. All are welcome: join us anytime to ‘taste and see’!! Contact: Peggy Hombs.

Men at the Movies returns this Tuesday, September 12th! The feature film is The Russians Are Coming! The Russians Are Coming! For an extensive description of this film, see the most recent monthly Messenger. All men are invited! Tuesday night, September 12th, in the Parlor. We will gather around 6:00pm for fellowship, the movie rolls around 6:30pm with discussion. Bring your own food and drink; bring a friend. Contact is Steve Van Voorhees.

Wednesday Worship ~ Wednesday worship at church: Centering Prayer, 11:30 am, for 20 minutes, and then a service of the Holy Eucharist at Noon. We often observe the feast day of a saint of the Church.

Creation Care ~ Please come to the next meeting of Creation Care, Wed., Sept. 13, at 10:30. We will be doing much more than gardening over time. Net zero greenhouse emissions and spiritual resilience are part of our concerns. We would be happy to learn of your questions and concerns.

Enriching Our Worship ~ Much of our service, our Opening Acclamation, Confession of Sin, Absolution, and Postcommunion Prayer come from Enriching Our Worship, a publication of the Episcopal Church, 1997. At our last General Convention, 2022, this resource, along with others, was approved for use as if included in the Book of Common Prayer. Season of Creation Resources are being used for our Prayers of
the People, Blessing, and Dismissal. Learn more about the Season of Creation here [https://tinyurl.com/smxfhc4v](https://tinyurl.com/smxfhc4v) an article from the Episcopal News Service

* Calendar *

All of our 12-Step Groups meet in our Serenity Lodge, which is a building behind the church.

**Sunday, September 10 ~ Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
8:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Class * 10:00 a.m. ~ Holy Eucharist * 11:00 a.m. ~ Conference Room Reserved: Spanish for Volunteers * 4:00 p.m. ~ Let Go and Let God (AA) * 7:30 p.m. ~ Back to Basics (AA)

**Monday, September 11**
6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting * 5:30 p.m. ~ Editorial Board meeting * 6:00 p.m. ~ Men of NA * 6:30 p.m. ~ Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting * 7:00 p.m. ~ Monday Night Class

**Tuesday, September 12**
6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting * 6:00 p.m. ~ Men at the Movies * 6:30 p.m. ~ NA Meeting

**Wednesday, September 13**
6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting * 11:30 a.m. ~ Centering Prayer in church * 12:00 p.m. ~ Holy Eucharist in church * 4:30 p.m. ~ Pastoral Care Ministry meeting on Zoom * 6:00 p.m. ~ Bell choir

**Thursday, September 14**
6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting * 12:00 p.m. ~ How Al-Anon Works * 4:00 p.m. ~ Lectionary Study * 6:00 p.m. ~ Drop the Rock (12-step meeting) * 7:00 p.m. ~ Choir Rehearsal * 7:30 p.m. ~ OA meeting

**Friday, September 15**
6:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting

**Saturday, September 16**
8:45 a.m. ~ AA Meeting * 11:00 a.m. ~ Food Pantry Open

**Sunday, September 17 ~ Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
8:45 a.m. ~ Sunday Morning Class * 10:00 a.m. ~ Holy Eucharist bilingual español * 4:00 p.m. ~ Let Go and Let God (AA) * 7:30 p.m. ~ Back to Basics (AA)