



**Repentance** is the  
right response to  
**God's invitation** to  
enter His Kingdom.

**Obedience** is the  
proper response  
to **please** our Father  
in heaven.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 27, 2026

9:30 a.m.

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church**

10233 W. Peoria Avenue \* Sun City AZ 85351

623-972-1100 \* [office@stchristophers-az.org](mailto:office@stchristophers-az.org)

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church**  
**Holy Eucharist Rite II -**  
**Sunday, September 27, 2026**

**Liturgy of the Word**

|                        |                        |                |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Prelude                |                        |                |
| Announcements          |                        | Chinenye Anako |
| Processional           | <i>He Is Exalted</i>   | Attached       |
| Opening Acclamation    |                        | BCP 355        |
| Gloria                 | <i>Glory to God</i>    | S-280          |
| The Collect of the Day |                        | Attached       |
| First Reading          | Ezekiel `8: 1-4, 25-32 | Attached       |
| The Psalm              | Psalm 25: 1-8          | Attached       |

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning,  
is now and will be forever. Amen**

|                                   |                      |                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Second Reading                    | Philippians2: 1-13   | Attached                 |
| Gospel Hymn                       | <i>Seek Ye First</i> | H-711                    |
| Gospel                            | Matthew 21: 23-32    | Attached                 |
| Sermon                            |                      | The Rev Gerardo Brambila |
| Nicene Creed                      |                      | BCP 358                  |
| Prayers of the People Form VI     |                      | Attached                 |
| Confession                        |                      | BCP 360                  |
| The Peace                         |                      | BCP-360                  |
| Birthdays/Anniversaries/Blessings |                      | BCP Inside Cover         |
| Travel Blessings                  |                      | BCP 831                  |

**Offertory**

|                    |                                                |             |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Offertory Sentence |                                                | BCP 376     |
| Offertory Anthem   | <i>Whispering Hope by J.I. McClelland</i>      |             |
| Doxology           | <i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i> | H-380, v. 3 |

**The Holy Communion**

|                           |                              |                           |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Eucharistic Prayer A      |                              | BCP 361                   |
| Sanctus                   | <i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i> | S-129                     |
| The Lord's Prayer         | <i>Our Father</i>            | Hymnal Inside Front Cover |
| Fraction Anthem           | <i>Christ Our Passover</i>   | S-155                     |
| The Breaking of the Bread |                              | BCP 364                   |

**The Invitation & Distribution**

|                       |                                   |                    |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Communion Hymn        | <i>Eagle's Wings</i>              | W-810              |
| Post Communion Prayer |                                   | BCP 365            |
| The Blessing          |                                   | Celebrant's Choice |
| Dismissal Hymn        | <i>Crown Him With Many Crowns</i> | H-494, Vs 1, 2, 3  |
| Dismissal Acclamation |                                   | BCP 366            |

**St. Christopher's uses the following texts as worship aides:**

The Book of Common Prayer = BCP  
The 1982 Hymnal = H  
Wonder, Love & Praise Hymnal = WLP

**Today's Worship Leaders**

|                         |                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Celebrant:              | The Rev Gerardo Brambila       |
| Deacon                  | Deacon Bola                    |
| Verger:                 | Patty Emanuelson               |
| Crucifer:               | Betty Roddy                    |
| Gospel Bearer           | Deacon Bola                    |
| First Reading and Psalm | Dick Young                     |
| Second Reading          | Marva Martinez                 |
| Prayers of the People   | Patty Emanuelson               |
| Chalice Bearers:        | Betty Roddy & Patty Emanuelson |
| Music Director          | Mr. Don Palm                   |

**St. Christopher's Staff**

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila, Rector  
Cathy Sheredy, Administrative Assistant  
Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton  
Don Palm, Music Director & Organist  
Arturo & Isabel Jaramillo, Hispanic Music Leader & Vocalists

**Vestry Members**

Patty Emanuelson, Senior Warden  
Bill Masters, Junior Warden  
Diane Plein, Clerk of the Vestry  
Mona Guarino, Treasurer  
Chinenye Anako, Member-at-Large  
Marva Martinez, Member-at-Large  
Mary Salgado, Member-at-large  
Mike Soock, Member-at-Large  
Eric Tapia, Member-at-Large  
Dick Young, Member-at-Large

**Do you know someone who would benefit from prayer?** Contact us! Would you like more information about something you read in the announcements? Contact us! Do you have an idea for fellowship or fund-raising? Contact us! Maybe you would like to talk with Fr. Gerardo? Contact us! Have a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, accident, family issues, something similar)? Contact us! Lots of information on the message! And you can leave one too!

**But, if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Gerardo at 602-405-4588 and leave a message.**

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Office Phone: 623-972-1100.

## Collect of the Day

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### First Lesson

#### Ezekiel 18: 1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

### The Psalm

#### Psalm 25: 1-8

1. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
**let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

2. Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
**let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
3. Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
**and teach me your paths.**
4. Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
**for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**
5. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
**for they are from everlasting.**
6. Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
**remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
7. Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
**therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
8. He guides the humble in doing right \*  
**and teaches his way to the lowly.**

**The Epistle  
Philippians 2: 1-13**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my

presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**The Holy Gospel**  
**Matthew 21: 23-32**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not;' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir;' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

## The Prayers of the People Form VI

L: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

**People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

L: For this community, the nation, and the world;

**People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

L: For the just and proper use of your creation;

**People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

L: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

L: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

L: For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer, our Bishop, Gerardo, our Rector; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**People: For all who serve God in his Church.**

L: Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our Armed Forces serving in our military serving at home and abroad, including the United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, Space Force and Merchant Marines. We pray specifically for Matt, Zach, Christopher, and Tierra.

**People: Defend them day-by-day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; grant them a sense of your adding presence wherever they may be.**

L: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence – The People may add their own petitions*

L: Hear us, Lord;

**People: For your mercy is great.**

L: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence - The People may add their own thanksgivings*

L: We will exalt you, O God our King;

**People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

L: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence - The People may add their own petitions*

L: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**People: Who put their trust in you.**

L: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Leader and People**

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## St. Christopher's Episcopal Church Weekly Announcements September 27, 2026

**Our Vision:** One congregation worshipping and serving in two languages.  
**Our Mission:** We are the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus: welcoming all to worship and serving those in need to the glory of God.

*Please leave the music inserts and the Prayers of the People inserts in the pews or in the narthex. Thank you for helping to save administrative costs.*

**CHOIR REHEARSAL:** A reminder that Choir rehearsal will resume this coming Wednesday, September 30 at 4:00 p.m. in the Church sanctuary and will resume singing in Church on Sunday, October 4 at the 9:30 a.m. service.

**CHRISTOPHER SINGERS:** *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Ps. 98:4* **THE CHRISTOPHER SINGERS** is a sing-along outreach ministry, led by Diane Plein, Bill Lynn, and Katy Young playing the banjo, guitar and flute, respectively. The members visit adult care centers on the first and third Fridays of each month. We need help with announcing the songs and guiding people to the correct page numbers in the song sheets that are handed out to everybody. Come and see and join us in this fun ministry making a joyful noise (notice we didn't say beautiful singing), to the Lord. Our first sing will be on **Friday, October 2, 11:00 a.m.** at Benevilla Mary's Place located at 14601 N. Del Webb Blvd, Sun City. Please contact Diane Plein or Bill Lynn for more information. Diane can provide a ride if we meet in the church parking lot.

**WELCOME:** A very warm welcome to both Deacon Bola and Mary Ann Ronan, our Deacon in Training. Please take the opportunity to say hello during coffee fellowship. More information about Deacon Bola and Mary Ann will be in the October Newsletter.

**WEDNESDAY LITURGY & HEALING SERVICE:** Will begin again on **Wednesday, October 7** at 10:00 a.m. This will be followed at 10:45 a.m. with **The Way of St. Francis Scripture Study led by Mary Ann Ronan.** This is a sacred journey not only through the life of St. Francis, but through the movement of your heart. We will use the 7 Pillars to awaken your faith.. Information for each week is on the next page

**October 7:** CONVERSION & SURRENDER: What Leper do we need to kiss?  
What am I still holding onto that keeps me from full trust in God

**October 14:** CALLING & ACCOMPANIMENT: Who has God placed in your life to  
walk the journey?

**October 21:** ENCOUNTER & COMPASSION: How is God asking me to move others I  
don't understand? Who around me is hungry - for belonging?

**October 28:** AGAPE & TRANSFORMATION: How do we understand love?  
What legacy of light are you giving to others?

**SPARKLE & SHINE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:** It is that time again! The Christmas Boutique will be **October 23-25, Friday - Sunday**. We need our crafters to get those beautiful items ready for our St Christopher's Boutique table. We have postcards available for you to share with your family, friends and neighbors and invite them to attend. You can also share them with vendors if you are visiting other Craft shows or Events and invite them to join us in October. If you have any questions please see Barbara Jackson or Mona Guarino during coffee hour or send a note to Cathy in the office and she will forward it to me. Working together will help us have another successful event.

**ELECTRONIC SIGN:** The electronic sign at the front of the church is off-line (even though it is showing information). The sign was updated, however, due to a malfunction, it did not update as was expected! Please know that this is being worked on at this time.

**STREAMING LINK:** As a reminder, if you are unable to attend church in person, you can view both the English and Spanish services via our streaming link (below). Both English and Spanish bulletins can be found on the webpage and are sent out via email on Fridays. If you have any questions regarding the link, please speak with Bill Lynn.

[https://www.youtube.com/@StChris\\_SunCityAZ/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@StChris_SunCityAZ/streams)

**WATER DRIVE:** This year we will be collecting money and/or water for Valley View Food Bank as a way of assisting St. Christopher's community. Valley View will provide will share the water with the homeless who find themselves outside in the summer heat. There is a blessings container available to leave monetary donations or you can drop a check or cash (in an envelope) in the offering plate. Be sure to mark the envelope or check "Valley View Water Donation." Thank you.

**FOOD BANK/FOOD DRIVE: Next week is “Canned Goods” Sunday.** Valley View Food Bank is always in need of canned goods—canned vegetables, fruit (including low salt and low sugar), canned meat (spam, etc.), canned tuna, sardines, salmon.. Please bring any canned goods to share. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity~*It is not how much we give but how much love we put into giving — Mother Teresa*

### **FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE HOUR**

#### **You’re Invited! – Coffee Fellowship Gathering**

We’d love for you to join us for a time of fellowship and warm conversation and friendly faces.

Date: Every Sunday

Time: After Worship Service

Location: Parish Hall

We can’t wait to see you there!

Coffee hour is in need of extra hands to help in the kitchen. And coffee hour is always in need of donations of cookies, donuts, coffee cakes, fruit trays – anything you would like to bring. Look for the sign-up sheet in the kitchen.

***Domingo Lopez hosts this week’s coffee fellowship.***

***We really do appreciate the help everyone gives each week! Thank you!***

### **Monthly Food Bank Donations**

|               | <b>September 21</b> | <b>2026 Total</b> |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Weight        |                     | 1,294 lbs.        |
| Cash          | \$100.00            | \$910.00          |
| Water Project | \$10.00             | \$708.00          |

### **Monthly Thrift Shop Stats**

|           | <b>September 21</b> | <b>September Total</b> | <b>2026 Year Total</b> |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Bargains  | \$542.00            | \$1,333.00             | \$18,497.75**          |
| Bookstore | \$62.00             | \$211.00               | \$2,036.55             |

***\*\*Bargains total includes all money received from Big Brothers/Big Sisters.***



### **Happy Anniversary in September**

Al & Bonnie Franco      64 years



### **Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating in September**

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ester Zamora            | Ann Gay                 |
| Ivón Millán             | Ken Anako               |
| Jay Díaz Ríos           | Aurelio Valles Burciaga |
| Leslie Aleman           | Bill Masters            |
| Barbara Kimball         | Melanie Murua           |
| Gabriel Bustamante Diaz | Connor Abel             |
| Isabel Jaramillo        |                         |

### **This Week's Prayer List**

***Effective October 1, names will remain on the prayer list for 30 days, after which they will be removed. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or have someone remain on the prayer list, please add the information to the sign up sheet in the Narthex. Thank you.***

\* Kelli Abel \* Makayla Abel \* Juan Gabriel Aleman \* Anne \* Jim Barnette \* Judy Broeder \*  
 \* Jan Browning & granddaughter Kia \* Tim Buffery \* Karen Butler \* John Card \*  
 \* Clive Chancey \* Claudio \* Sharon Cook \* Jane Cooley \* Jean Durrett \* Kathryn Frantz \*  
 \* Fr. Gerardo \* Cathy & Gary Gustin \* Karen Harry \* Michael Heap \* Judith \* Kim \*  
 \* Barbara Kimball \* Gene Lapham \* Terry Lewis \* Domingo Lopez \* Ernesto Martinez \*  
 \* Marva Martinez \* Larry Mayper \* Jeff McBride \* Maureen \* Brenda McCormick \*  
 \* Mia \* Shawn Mirigian \* Hivanny Oliver \* Marla Karla Pallas \* Don Palm \* Paul & Paula \*  
 \* Jean Phelps \* Ramon \* Jill Renner \* Rick & Robbie \* Betty Roddy \* Javier Sanchez \*  
 \* Socorro Sanchez \* Sherrie \* Stella \* Anna Van Scoter \* David Scott (Barbara Kimball's son) \*  
 \* Victoria \* Lynn Viviano-Webb \* Carol Weber \* Steve Wheatley \* Janet Young \* Ester Zamora \*

### **For those who have died**

\* Janice Crane \* Tom Camper \* Raul Abel Zamora

### **Vestry**

Patty Emanuelson, Senior Warden \* Bill Masters, Junior Warden,  
Diane Plein, Clerk of the Vestry \* Mona Guarino, Treasurer

### **Members at Large**

Chinenye Anako \* Marva Martinez \* Maria Salgado \* Mike Soock \* Eric Tapia \* Dick Young \*

### **St. Christopher's Staff**

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Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton  
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