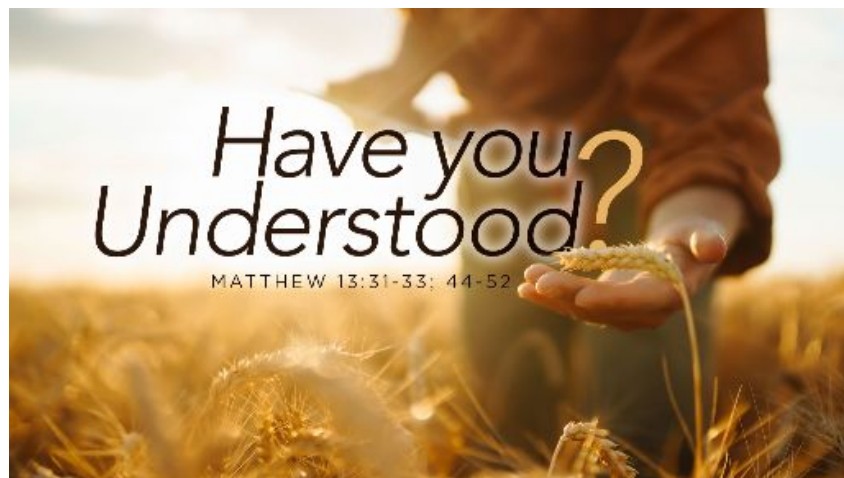




St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist: Rite II
The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
July 26, 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

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
Holy Eucharist Rite II -
Sunday, July 26, 2026

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude		
Announcements		Marva Martinez
Processional	<i>How Firm A Foundation</i>	H-637, Vs 1-4
Opening Acclamation		BCP 355
Gloria	<i>Glory to God</i>	S-280
The Collect of the Day		Attached
First Reading	Genesis 29: 15-28	Attached
The Psalm	Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b	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	Romans 8: 26-39	Attached
Gospel Hymn	<i>Seek Ye First</i>	H-711
Gospel	Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52	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>Jesus Is All The World To Me by Will Thompson</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>Beneath the Cross of Jesus</i>	H-498
Post Communion Prayer		BCP 365
The Blessing		Celebrant's Choice
Dismissal Hymn	<i>O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing</i>	H-493
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
Verger:	Patty Emanuelson
Crucifer:	Patty Emanuelson
Gospel Bearer	Betty Roddy
First Reading and Psalm	Diane Plein
Second Reading	Beth Mayhew
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, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson

Genesis 29:15-28

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

The Psalm

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

1. Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
2. Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
3. Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

4. Search for the Lord and his strength; *
continually seek his face.
 5. Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
 6. O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.
 7. He is the Lord our God; *
his judgments prevail in all the world.
 8. He has always been mindful of his covenant, *
the promise he made for a thousand generations:
 9. The covenant he made with Abraham, *
the oath that he swore to Isaac,
 10. Which he established as a statute for Jacob, *
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
 11. Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan *
to be your allotted inheritance."
- 45b Hallelujah!

The Epistle Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Holy Gospel
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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 July 26, 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.

READERS AND ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED: Please contact Patty Emanuelson or Fr. Gerardo for further information. Instructions will be provided.

READINGS: If you would like to receive large print copies of the lectionary readings, please notify the ushers. Several copies are always available.

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.

BIBLE STUDY: One of the best ways to connect and grow in our church community is through small groups. Small groups are a place where we can study God's word together and support each other in our faith journeys. The Bible Study is now open to everyone and takes place on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall**. Come and join in fellowship.



BOOKSTORE: Check out the paperback fiction table. All your favorites and some new friends.. Low prices continue. It's too expensive to go for a drive so stay home and read. Also in—new games.

MORNING PRAYER BY ZOOM ON WEDNESDAYS AT 10:05 AM: If you like morning prayer and can't get to church all the time, feel free to join us on Zoom any Wednesday morning around 10:05-10:45. For more information, contact Patty Emanuelson, Mona Guarino or Beth Mayhew (602-435-5272). Look forward to seeing you!

NAME BADGES: We ask that everyone please remember to wear your name badge as it would be of a great help for Fr. Gerardo, new parishioners, and visitors. If you need a name badge, please contact the office. If you have requested a name badge, please check your folder in the mailcart in the Narthex.

FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE HOUR NEEDS YOUR HELP!

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 hour.

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



FOOD BANK/FOOD DRIVE” Next week is “Infants and Children” Sunday. Valley View Food Bank’s list of “most needed items” for infants and children includes infant cereal, fruit cups, juice boxes, crackers, along with diapers and wipes. Please bring what you are able to share. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

Monthly Food Bank Donations

	July 20	2026 Total
Weight		1,137 lbs.
Cash	\$100.00	\$700.00
Water Project	\$4.00	\$404.00

Monthly Thrift Shop Stats

(Bargains & Bookstore was closed on July 18)

	July 13	July Total	2026 Year Total
Bargains	\$523.00	\$523.00	\$14,658.15**
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	\$23.00		
Bookstore	\$48.00	\$48.00	\$1,412.55

*****Bargains total includes the \$23.00 received from Big Brothers/Big Sisters***



Happy Anniversary in July

No anniversaries in July



Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating in July

Sharon Cook	July 7	Don Palm	July 17
Pamela Anako	July 8	Charlotte Powley	July 21
Shelly Clother	July 9	Venecia Aleman	July 22
Chiamaka Anako	July 10	Martin Rios	July 25
Lincoln Wilcoxson	July 11	Sarah Shaneyfelt	July 25
Fernanda Iuna Chávez	July 14	Ambrose Anako	July 26
Marie Vogel	July 15	Bruno Bramila	July 26

This Week's Prayer List

One of the ways we care for one another in this church is through prayer. We believe that prayer is powerful and can bring comfort, healing, and peace. Today, we pray for the people below.

* Kelli Abel * Makayla Abel * Juan Gabriel Aleman * Chinenye Anako * Nnenna Anako *

* Anne * Jim Barnette * Steven Blankenship * Bob Bledsoe * Viviana Brambila * Judy Broeder *

* Jan Browning & granddaughter Kia * Tim Buffery * Karen Butler * Tom Camper * John Card *

* Clive Chancey * Claudio * Sharon Cook * Jane Cooley * Jean Durrett * Fr. Gerardo *

* Cathy & Gary Gustin * Karen Harry * Michael Heap * Judith * Kim * Gene Lapham *

* Terry Lewis * Domingo Lopez * Ernesto Martinez * Marva Martinez * Jeff McBride *

* Brenda McCormick * Mia * Shawn Mirigian * Bryan Nance * Marla Karla Pallas *

* Don Palm * Paul * Joanne Porter * Ramon * Jill Renner * Rick & Robbie * Betty Roddy *

* Javier Sanchez * Socorro Sanchez * Sherrie * Stella * Anna Van Scoter * Victoria *

* Lynn Viviano-Webb * Barbara Welsh * Steve Wheatley * Janet Young * Ester Zamora *

For those who have died

* Agnus David * Carol Masters * Sharon McKee *

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 *

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