

# Trumpeter

*St. Christopher's Episcopal Church*

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

**8 am - Holy Eucharist Service**

**10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service**



## Message from the Senior Warden...

Hello to all the members and friends of St. Christopher's Church of Grand Blanc, Michigan. I hope all of you are having a wonderful summer, enjoying the warmer weather and conditions that seem more like April.

The Vestry has met and decided to hold off on capital improvements for the church at this time. I hope we can come to a resolution and decide if there's a way to move forward with some improvements this year. I will keep you updated as to the ability to move ahead with the signage in front of the church or/and the windows in the church that need to be replaced.

As usual, I say, as with all capital improvements, these are an act of faith, and we will have to determine if we can find the funding for any of these projects. You may remember, that's exactly what I said last year with the HVAC improvements and we are able to find ways to fund them. Thanks to the members.

We are underway with prepping for our Ally Challenge contract coming up August 27th through August 30th. We'll have a sign-up sheet for volunteers for that project and look forward to it moving smoothly as possible.

In the meantime, let's enjoy the church year and weather that soon will be summer like and bright and breezy.

Chapin Cook



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## Staff

The Reverend Jerry Lasley  
*Rector*  
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The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr  
*Priest in Residence*

The Reverend Dr. Donald F. Davidson  
*Priest in Residence*

Nada Radakovich, *Director of Music*  
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Angela Zinsli, *Administrative Assistant*  
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Luna, *Sexton*



## Vestry 2026

Chapin Cook, *Senior Warden*

Rod Bytwerk, *Junior Warden*

Louise McAra, *Clerk*

Jane Brewer, *Co-Treasurer*  
Dale Rice, *Co-Treasurer*

Karen Carr (2027) Dave Miller (2027)  
Janice Convis (2027) Colleen Shrank (2029)  
Diane Stellrecht (2029) Louise McAra (2028)  
Jane Brewer (2029) Rod Bytwerk (2028)  
Chapin Cook (2028)

## Upcoming Lessons

**July 5**  
**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Zechariah 9:9-12  
Psalm 145:8-15  
Romans 7:15-25a  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**July 12**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
Isaiah 55:10-13  
Psalm 65: (1-8), 9-14  
Romans 8:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**July 19**  
**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Isaiah 44:6-8  
Psalm 86:11-17  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**July 26**  
**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
1 Kings 3:5-12  
Psalm 119:129-136  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**August 2**  
**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Isaiah 55:1-5  
Psalm 145:8-9, 15-22  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21

**August 9**  
**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
1 Kings 19:9-18  
Psalm 85:8-13  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-33

**Find the readings every week at [lectionary-page.net](http://lectionary-page.net)**

# FROM THE PRIEST'S DESK



Dear beloved in Christ,

As we enter the month of July, I find myself giving thanks for the particular gifts of this season: longer days, gatherings with family and neighbors, the beauty of creation in full bloom, and the opportunity many of us receive to step back from our usual pace and breathe more deeply. Summer can be a gracious reminder that God's world is not sustained by our striving alone. The fields grow, the birds sing, the sun rises, and the Spirit continues to move among us with quiet faithfulness.

July also brings our national observance of Independence Day. We give thanks for the freedoms we cherish, for the sacrifices made by generations before us, and for the civic responsibilities entrusted to us. At the same time, we remember that liberty is never merely a possession to be protected for ourselves; it is a calling to seek justice, peace, and dignity for all God's children.

The Scriptures appointed for Independence Day remind us that the Lord "executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing." That is a holy measure of freedom: not only whether we may speak, worship, and gather, but whether the vulnerable are protected, the lonely are welcomed, the hungry are fed, and the stranger is treated as neighbor. Our life in Christ calls us to use freedom not for self-interest, but for love.

This month, I encourage you to make room for prayerful rest. Rest is not an escape from discipleship; it is part of discipleship. Jesus withdrew to quiet places. The Sabbath was given as a gift. A rested soul is better able to listen, forgive, serve, and rejoice. Whether your July includes travel or staying close to home, I invite you to notice God's presence in ordinary moments: a meal shared, a garden tended, a conversation on the porch, a hymn remembered, a prayer whispered before sleep.

Continued....



I also invite us to remain attentive to one another. Summer can be joyful, but it can also be a lonely season for those who are grieving, homebound, ill, or separated from regular routines of community. A phone call, a note, a visit, or an invitation to coffee can become a simple and powerful act of grace. The Church is not only gathered on Sunday; the Church is also revealed whenever one member of Christ's Body reaches out to another in love.

As we continue through the long green season after Pentecost, we are reminded that growth often happens quietly. Seeds take root beneath the surface before fruit appears. So it is with the life of faith. Every prayer, every act of mercy, every moment of forgiveness, every offering of time and talent becomes part of God's patient work in us. Do not underestimate the holiness of small faithfulness.

In the weeks ahead, I hope you will continue to join us for worship, fellowship, and service as you are able. If you are traveling, please know that you remain in our prayers. If you are here, your presence is a blessing to this parish. And if you have been away for a while, consider this a gentle invitation to come home. There is a place for you at the table, in the pew, and in the shared life of this congregation.

May July be for us a month of gratitude, renewal, and holy courage. May we cherish the freedoms we have received by using them for compassion and justice. May we rest in God's love and rise to serve in God's name. And may the peace of Christ guide our hearts, our homes, our parish, and our nation.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Jerry+





The latest Vestry Meeting Minutes and Financial Statement are located on the kiosk in the narthex for review.

As announced at the Annual Meeting, all funds given toward pledges received in the current calendar year must be deposited and posted to the same calendar year. We can no longer accept advanced payment of pledges for the next calendar year.

Thank you for your understanding.



## Armed Forces and Federal Ministries Cycle of Prayer

### Armed Forces and Federal Ministries

Under the direction of Bishop Ann Ritonia, Armed Forces and Federal Ministries provides pastoral care and support to members of the military and federal agencies. This week's updates include:

Cycle of Prayer 2026. You can find the complete cycle at [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org) under Armed Forces and Federal Ministries.

In the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries cycle of prayer, we pray for our chaplains, military members, their families, and for the following:

Week of July 5. Those serving in South Dakota - at Ellsworth Air Force Base, the 114th Fighter Wing Air National Guard, Camp Rapid, Federal Prison Camp Yankton, and the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center.

Week of July 12. Those serving in Tennessee - at Arnold Air Force Base, the 164th Airlift Wing Air National Guard, the 134th Air Refueling Wing Air National Guard, Federal Correctional Institution Memphis, and the Alvin C. York VA Medical Center.

Week of July 19. Those serving in Texas - at Fort Bliss, Fort Hood, Joint Base San Antonio, Laughlin Air Force Base, Federal Correctional Complex Beaumont, and the VA North Texas Healthcare System.

Week of July 26. Those serving in Virginia - at Fort Belvoir, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Fort Gregg-Adams, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Naval Station Norfolk, and the Richmond VA Medical Center.

# HEALING SERVICE

Please note that the next Healing Services will be held on Friday, July 3rd 2026 and Friday, August 7th at Noon.



Thank you to everyone who hosted coffee hour in June: Shirley Showler, Frank Burger, Mike Latesky, Bill Anderson, Jeff & Kim Parker. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Please consider signing up to host! You only have to make coffee/tea and perhaps provide a small snack or treat item if desired.



The next Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, July 8th at 11:45 am at Social House, 5516 Fenton Road, Flint, MI 48507.

If you plan on attending, please sign up on the kiosk or contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334.



The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2026 at 9 am @ Hill Road Grille, 2160 W. Hill Road, Flint. Please sign up on the Kiosk.



We are in need of items for our Blessing Bags for Carriage Town Ministries. Items needed: bars of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, travel size shampoo, deodorant, bottles of water and snacks (granola bars, etc). Please note that currently we have plenty of socks. There is a blue tub in the Gathering to place donations.



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church Annual Food Distribution...will be held the third Saturday of each month, May through October located at 7234 Fenton Road, Grand Blanc. There are no specific income requirements that people have to meet in order to receive food. However, a representative of the household has to be present to receive the food. If you know of anyone in need, please share this information.

If you know of anyone that would like to volunteer to help distribute - they need 40-50 volunteers each distribution. Volunteers should arrive at 8 am and park in the Sikh Temple lot directly south of Holy Spirit. You will be fed lunch following the distribution, which usually concludes around 11 am.

# From the Music Room...



Greetings from the Music Room! Happy Summer!

As the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of our county approaches, I thought it might be fun to talk a little about the music we were singing in the Episcopal Church in 1776!

I did think that I would be talking primarily about William Billings! William WHO, you ask? Well, for whatever reasons, my early musical education visited compositions of William Billings rather frequently!

So, if you have a moment to read further, I will tell you a bit about Master Billings! Billings was born in Massachusetts in 1746, and he made it to the ripe old age of 54! He was known as a patriot, a composer and a self-taught tanner! He taught singing schools, published collections of psalms, anthems and hymns---more than 340!

Several of these pieces are still performed regularly in churches and with choral groups. Billings was an active member of the Whig party (you know---those guys who spearheaded the American Revolution---)...and it just so happened that Paul Revere and Samuel Adams were good friends of his.

In 1776, the church we now attend, The Episcopal Church, was then known as the Church of England in America. Music in the parishes in 1776 sang unaccompanied or very simply harmonized psalms and hymns. Isaac Watts, who has seventeen of his metrical psalms and hymns in our 1982 Hymnal include pieces we know as: O God our help in ages past; Joy to the World! The Lord is come; Jesus shall reign where'er the sun; When I survey the Wondrous Cross' I sing the almighty power of God, Come let us join our cheerful songs.

A few interesting things to ponder: a little before 1776, in Rhode Island, there was a church, one of the very few in the colonies, which featured an instrument, and that was an early pipe organ (kind of like the one we have---but ours is better); theirs was installed in 1733!

In Williamsburg, VA, parish music was quite connected to the English Choral Tradition. Composers like Johann CHRISTIAN Bach (whose works were published in 1776) (Johann Sebastian's son) are samples of music patrons of the church, wealthy farmers, politicians and high society members liked to hear.

Here is a very famous piece of Billings' It is known as "Chester". [https://youtu.be/t7S\\_07E-9CA?si=D-OPLu1LCJ5PIMXH](https://youtu.be/t7S_07E-9CA?si=D-OPLu1LCJ5PIMXH)

Being a musician involved in church music now, present day, 2026, it is quite fascinating to me that music from that long ago has survived and is even cherished and revered by many church goers.

I wish each one of you a meaningful celebration of our 250th, and good health, good friends and great music!

~ In Christ, I am yours,

*Nada*





## Worship Leaders for July 2026

	LECTOR / LEM	GREETERS	TECH	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	ALTAR FLOW- ERS
<b>July 5</b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Jacob Stuart (LEM)/ Jane Brewer	Neuman & Jan Convis	-----	-----	Dave & Karen Miller	Jane Brewer
<b>10:15 am</b>	Bob Luckey	Jane Yorks & Rene Carpenter		Louise McAra		
<b>July 12</b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Nancy Wells (LEM)/Jacob Stuart	Dale & Sharon Rice		-----	Jane Yorks	Neuman & Jan Convis
<b>10:15 am</b>	Linda Rathburn	Christine Jacob & Louise Des- granges		Colleen Shrank		
<b>July 19</b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Dave Butler (LEM)/Dave & Melissa Butler	Jane Brewer & Nancy Wells	-----	-----		Jeff & Kim Parker
<b>10:15 am</b>	Frank Burger/ Steve Huber (L)	Bill Hartley & Jan Taylor		Sharon Rice	Chapin Cook & Ellen Safley	
<b>July 26</b>						
<b>8 am</b>	Nancy Wells (LEM & Lector)	Dale & Sharon Rice		-----	Available	Available
<b>10:15 am</b>	Karen Miller	Flo Gjerstad & Bill Anderson		Jane Brewer		