



CHRIST AND THE EPIPHANY

VOLUME 29

August 2025

Summer Mindset: Colossians 3:2

John Piper

“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

Jesus Christ is refreshing. A flight from him into Christ-less leisure makes the soul parched. At first it may feel like freedom and fun to skimp on prayer and neglect the Word. But then we pay: shallowness, powerlessness, vulnerability to sin, superficial relationships, preoccupation with trifles, and a frightening loss of interest in worship and the things of the Spirit.

Don't let summer make your soul shrivel. God made summer as a foretaste of heaven, not a substitute. If the mailman brings you a love letter from your fiancé, don't fall in love with the mailman. That's what summer is: God's messenger with a sun-soaked, tree-green, flower-blooming, lake-glistening letter of love to show us what he is planning for us in the age to come—*“things which the eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered into the heart of man, God has prepared for those who love him”* (1 Corinthians 2:9). Don't fall in love with the video preview, and find yourself

unable to love the coming reality.

Jesus Christ is the refreshing center of summer. He is pre-eminent in all things (Colossians 1:18), including vacations and picnics and softball and long walks and cookouts. He invites us this summer: *“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”* (Matthew 11:28). This is serious summer refreshment.

Do we want it? That is the question. Christ gives himself to us in proportion to how much we want his refreshment. *“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart”* (Jeremiah 29:13).

Peter's word to us about this is: *“Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord”* (Acts 3:19). Repentance is not just turning away from sin, but also turning toward the Lord with hearts open and expectant and submissive.

What sort of summer mindset is this? It is the mindset of Colossians 3:1-2, *“If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated*

Worship Services

Every Sunday, 9:00 a.m.,
in-person and via Zoom

Events

Saturday, September 6, 9:00
a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Harvest Fair

*(Zoom connection information
at the end of newsletter.)*

at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.”

In the summer the earth is very much with us. And it is God's earth! But it is all prelude to the real drama of heaven. It is a foretaste of the real banquet. It is a video preview to the reality of what the eternal summer will be like when *“The city has no need of sun or moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb”* (Revelation 21:23). So you see: the summer sun is a mere pointer to the sun that will be. The glory of God. Summer is for seeing and showing that. Will we have eyes to see? Do you want to have eyes to see? Lord, let us see the light beyond the light. Seek that this summer.

Seeking more, because I have been found.

Bible Study

Terry Osmun will conduct Bible study sessions on the topic of *Discipleship* following Sunday worship services. Grab a cup of coffee and a snack and join us in the Library on September 7, 14, 28, October 5, 12, 26, and November 2.

Thank you Terry!



Season of Creation Liturgy The Episcopal Church

In 2022, the Rev. John Elliott Lein (artist and priest in Downeast ME) partnered with the Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas (Creation Care leader in MA) to assemble and present liturgical resources for the Season of Creation for the benefit of interested yet busy parish worship leaders. Year by year, contributions and diocesan endorsements have grown. Last year, the 2024 Season of Creation worship guide was authorized for use in 50 dioceses across The Episcopal Church.

The new fourth edition is now a perennial version that will work for every liturgical year going forward. Lein says “It has been a joy to gather, create, and pray these materials yearly, yet now we hope this perennial edition will aid adoption and continue to grow as the Creator leads.”

Around the Church

Barbara & George
Birthday Coffee Hour



No Vestry meetings in July and August

Harvest Fair Reminder

Remember September 6 is this year's East Haven Fall Festival and our Harvest Fair. All baked goods will be gratefully received!

Encouraging Words Audrey Sundwall

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
-- *Philippians 4:19*

Look at the birds of the air: They do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?
-- *Matthew 6:26*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
-- *Psalms 23:1*

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.
-- *2 Corinthians 9:8*

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!
-- *Matthew 7:11*

How to Study the Bible "Our Daily Bread" March 2025

One excellent way to study the Bible is called the inductive method. The strategy is comprised of three steps: observation, interpretation, and application.

1. Observation

What does the context say? Collect as many facts as possible about the context. Don't take anything for granted. Ask questions: Who? What? Where? When? How? What recurring words indicate a main idea? What elements, arguments, or illustrations does the author use?

2. Interpretation

What does the text mean? After we've collected the facts, we ask, "What does the author mean by these words as they relate to the words that precede and follow them? What was his intent? What is the context?" A word is best understood in the way the author used it. Now the scriptures come alive with the pulse and throb of the author's own heart and intent.

3. Application

What does this text mean to me personally? Only after discovering the meaning of a text in its own time and place should one ask, "What does this mean to me?" Distinguish between cultural facts and timeless principles. Focus on the main idea. What are the primary issues of the heart? What does this say about my relationship to God? As we

answer these questions, the Bible comes alive with meaning and significance.



August 5 - Evelyn Conant
August 12 - Elise Nacca
August 17 - Ricky Alexander
August 28 - Stephanie Reynolds
August 30 - Janet Nolan



August 7 - James & Stephanie Reynolds
August 18 - Richard Schiavone & Judith Randall
August 20 - Tom & Susan Shultz
August 24 - Fred & Pat Walters
August 31 - Andrew & Terry Osmun



"Have you tried letting his people go?"

Intercessory Prayers

Aiden & the Guida Family, Alexis, Amanda, Amy, Andrew, Barbuschak Family, Beth Flynn, Brandon, Carol Ude, Charlie & Kris Langlan, David & Irene, Diana, Diane Link, Debbie, Donna Hodge & Family, Dot Logan, Doug, Ed, Elaine, Ellen McDonald, Erick Villano, Faith, Family in Ukraine, Francesca, Gail, Gail & Marnie, Geneva O'Donnell, Hal Levi, Holly Chickos, Holly, Jan McDonald, Jim R. & Family, Joan Shaffner, Kathy Guida, Kira, Korey Mollor, Kris, Lauren, Lucas Sundwall, Rev. Lucy, Matt R., Maureen McPherson, Mike, Michael M., Mila, Minogue Family, Nicole C., Pat Walters, Rachael, Regina Schwall, Richard Testa, Sallie Alexander, Sam W., Susan Diaz, Tricia Clearwater, Turiano Family

To submit names for the Intercessory Prayers list please call or email the church office. Names will be kept on the list for three months unless longer time is requested.

Next Issue The deadline for the September issue is August 19th. Send submissions to newsletters.christandtheepiphany@gmail.com. For an update to the Intercessory Prayers, Birthday or Anniversary lists, please call the church office at 203-467-2310 or email christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

ECCT 2024-2025 Prayer Cycle



August 3	Parishes: Good Shepherd/Immanuel; St. James, Shelton; St. Paul's, Shelton Additionally: Christ Church Cathedral's ministry in Hartford, the Cathedral Chapter & the honorary canons of our Cathedral Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Episcopal Church in the Philippines
August 10	Parishes: St. Alban's, Simsbury; St. Peter's, South Windsor Additionally: Liturgical assistants serving in parishes: lectors, lay readers, Eucharistic ministers, Eucharistic visitors, lay evangelists & vergers Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda
August 17	Parishes: Fresh expressions of the church in Connecticut; missional experiments Additionally: Students preparing to enter schools, colleges, universities & seminaries Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Scottish Episcopal Church
August 24	Parishes: Epiphany, Southbury; St. Paul's, Southington Additionally: Church musicians: organists; choirs & choir directors; bands; community chorister programs; parish & diocesan committees on liturgy, music & worship Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Church of the Province of South East Asia
August 31	Parishes: For all Episcopal schools, seminaries & campus ministries: Kent School; South Kent School; Pomfret School; Salisbury School; Wooster School; Rectory School; St. Thomas Day School, New Haven; Trinity Academy, Hartford; the Episcopal Church at UCONN, Storrs; Berkeley Divinity School; New Haven; The Episcopal Church at Yale, New Haven; Trinity College, Hartford. Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of South India (United)

Treasurer Report

Susan Shultz

	JUNE	(UNDER)/OVER BUDGET	YTD	(UNDER)/OVER YTD BUDGET
INCOME	\$ 10,846.40	(\$ 42.43)	\$ 58,896.76	(\$ 431.22)
EXPENSES	\$ 11,822.97	(\$ 3,743.22)	\$ 73,013.04	\$ 1,005.92
NET	(\$ 976.57)	\$ 3,700.79	(\$ 14,116.28)	(\$ 1,437.14)

Notes: Although June looks like we were almost \$1,000 in the red, we actually were almost \$3,000 ahead of budget (we had projected a \$4,000 deficit). And Year-to-date we are only \$1,500 off from budget (remember our 2025 budget has an expected \$13,500 deficit). While we would rather be beating our budget, with everything we are grateful we are not further off. God will provider.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING SCHEDULE (AUG - SEP)

Safe Church is a requirement of The Episcopal Church for all ordained persons, adults who minister with minors, youth in leadership roles, and adults who minister with vulnerable humans. Safe Church practices include training, background checks, and audits. All C&E volunteers are required to take Safe Church training. Comprehensive trainings take about five hours to complete and are done once. Recertification training is done every three years after the comprehensive training is completed.

- Aug 12, 6:00-9:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom
- Aug 16, 9:00-12:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via In-Person at St. John's, Essex
- Sep 16, 9:00-12:00 p.m. - Comprehensive via Zoom
- Sep 21, 1:00-4:00 p.m. - Recertification via Zoom

Worship Schedule 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)

	August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
Service	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Morning Prayer	Eucharist	Eucharist
Presider/ Officiant	Audrey Sundwall	Judy Herzman	Barbara Parsons	Rev. Juan Martinez	Rev. Jean Baptiste Rock
Crucifer				Kristina Langlan	Kristina Langlan
Acolyte				George Coulombe	George Coulombe
Lay Reader	Kristina Langlan	Terry Osmun	Pat Walters	Anthony Reckart	Brad Conant
Usher	Diane Villano	Kristina Langlan	Audrey Sundwall	Barbara Parsons	Pat Walters
Zoom Tech	Diane Villano	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz	Susan Shultz
Lead Counter	Astrid Swanson	Susan Shultz	George Coulombe	Pat Walters	Astrid Swanson
Asst Counter	Ray Clearwater	Evelyn Conant	Judy Herzman	Audrey Sundwall	Melanie Miller

Clergy, Vestry and Staff

Priest-in-charge	Rev. Charles L. Kamano
Senior Warden	Diane Villano
Junior Warden	Barbara Parsons (& Outreach)
Treasurer	Susan Shultz (& Technology)
Clerk	Kristina Langlan
Vestry Member	Ray Clearwater
Vestry Member	Carol Link-Ude (& Altar Guild; Hospitality & Fund Raising)
Vestry Member	Astrid Swanson
Vestry Member	Pat Walters
Vestry Member	Brad Conant
Music Director	Barbara Coulombe
Parish Administrator	Diane Rowley

ECCT continues to experience a shortage of supply clergy for Sunday services. If you know of anyone who might be interested in serving at C&E, please contact the office at christandtheepiphany@gmail.com.

To connect by computer, enter: <https://tinyurl.com/3kbvnb4>, or click on the link on our webpage: www.ChristandTheEpiphany.org

To join by phone call: 929-436-2866, Meeting ID = 763 909 4733, Password = 39

Weekly bulletins are emailed out on Fridays. Zoom is opened around 8:45 a.m. on Sunday.

If you are not receiving the email bulletin, please contact Diane Rowley in the office at 203-467-2310 or christandtheepiphany@gmail.com. If you want or need any help getting connected on Zoom please reach out any time to Susan Shultz at 203-589-1142 or sbshultz@gmail.com.

Christ and The Epiphany Church

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East Haven, CT 06512

Phone: 203-467-2310

Email: christandtheepiphany@gmail.com

Website: www.christandtheepiphany.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 a.m. In-Person & Online Zoom Worship
In-person with social distancing and optional masking