Welcome to St. David's Episcopal Church!

90 S. Main Street, Cranbury, NJ
stdavidscranbury.com

The Holy Eucharist
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2026

Prelude **O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß, BWV 622** **Brian Katona**
J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Processional Hymn **"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"** **Hymnal 1982, #390**

The Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn of Praise ***Gloria in excelsis*** **Hymnal 1982, S 279**

The Collect of the Day

Response **And also with you.**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

First Reading **Genesis 50:15-21**

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13 *read responsively by half verse* **BCP p. 733**

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6 The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.]

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

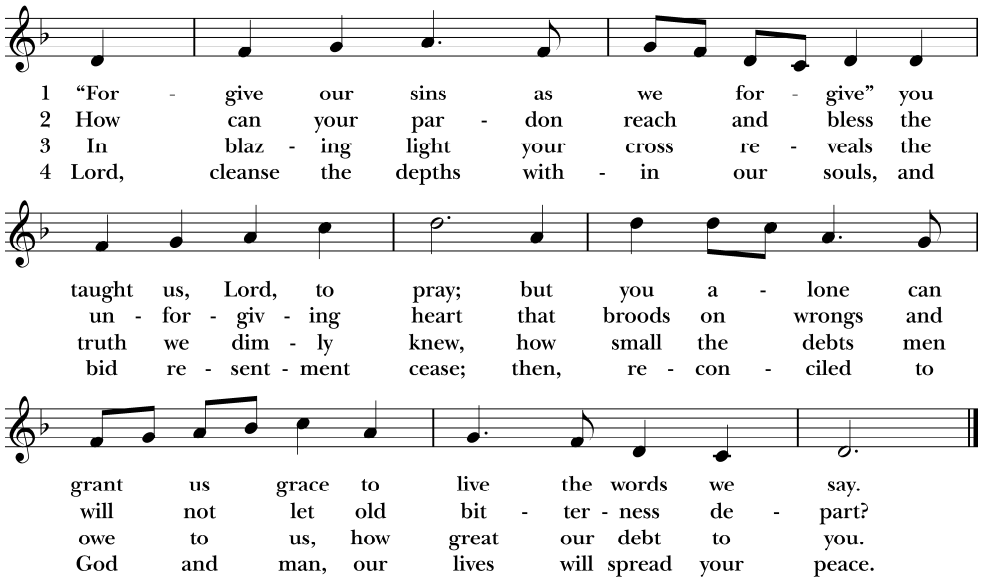
13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

Second Reading **Romans 14:1-12**

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sequence Hymn **"Forgive our sins as we forgive"** **Hymnal 1982, #674**



Words: Rosamond E. Herklots (1905-1987). By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Detroit*, from *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922).

The Holy Gospel **Matthew 18:21-35**

Response **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

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

The Sermon **The Rev. Dirk C. Reinken**

The Nicene Creed **BCP, p. 358**

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

After each petition

. . .Hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Confession of Sin *The people may stand or kneel* **BCP 360**

Deacon or Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or Priest

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keeps you in eternal life. Amen.

Blessing of Backpacks

All say the following Antiphon

For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. *
God stores up sound wisdom for the upright. *Proverbs 2:6-7*

James 1:5

V. If any of you is lacking wisdom,
R. Ask God, who gives to all generously

The Celebrant introduces the blessing. All hold up or place a hand on their backpacks or other tools of learning.

God of wisdom and knowledge, bless these backpacks and those who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do, through Jesus Christ our Lord, ***Amen.***

The Celebrant then asks teachers to stand

God who illumines us with knowledge and understanding, bless those in the ministry of teaching future generations. As they embark on a new school year, grant them energy, passion, discipline, and endurance for their daily tasks. Infuse their classrooms with an atmosphere of care and mutual respect, that all interactions there will be bathed in patience and understanding. Help their lessons to grow pupils in both knowledge and character, and help us all to support the work these teachers do building up our community and our future, through Jesus Christ our Lord, ***Amen.***

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music **St. David's Choir**

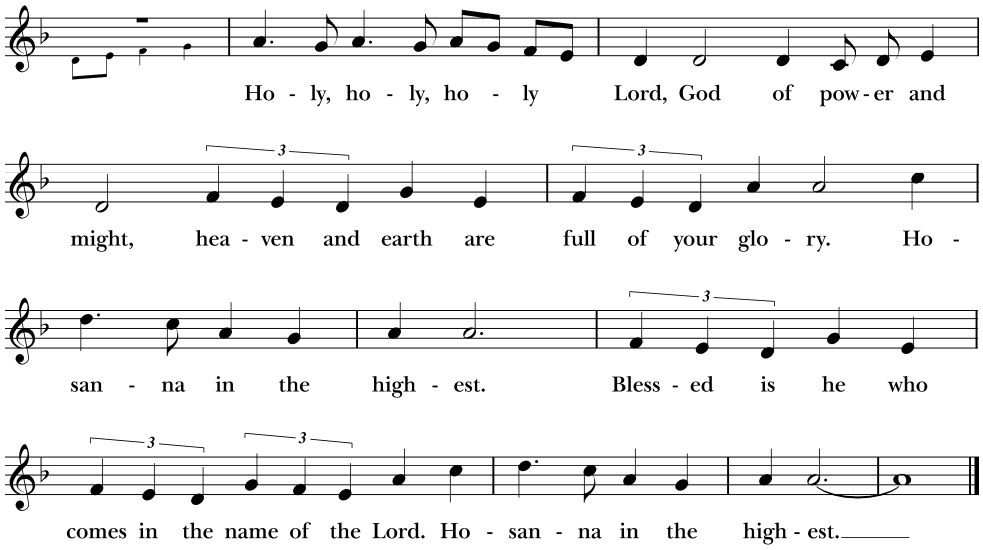
With a Voice of Singing
Martin Shaw (1875–1958)

The Great Thanksgiving **Eucharistic Prayer A** **BCP p. 361**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you**.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus **Hymnal 1982, S129**



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

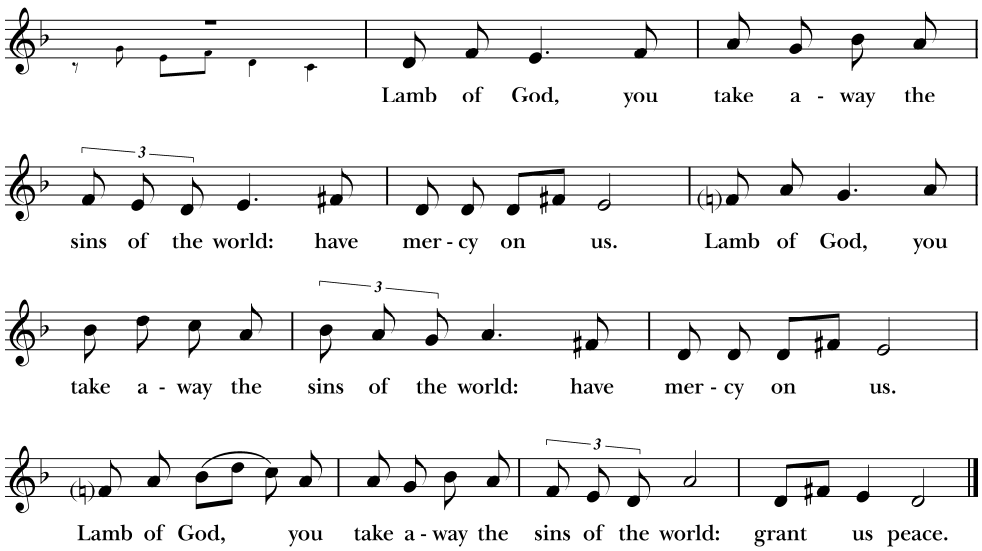
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem **Hymnal 1982, S163**



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The Celebrant says the following invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.
and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians of any denomination and any age are welcome to receive communion. All people of any faith or none are welcome to come to the Altar for a blessing. Please hold your hands out to receive communion or fold them across your chest to receive a blessing.

An usher will guide the congregation to the Altar.

Communion Hymn **"I come with joy to meet my Lord"** **Hymnal 1982 #304**

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

Post Communion Prayer *Please stand as you are able* **BCP p. 365**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements

Processional Hymn **"Love divine, all loves excelling"** **Hymnal 1982, #657**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

The Dismissal

The Deacon or the Celebrant dismissed the people

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude **Prelude and Fugue in C major, BWV 545** **Brian Katona**

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

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Announcements

Birthdays this week: Janice Winne, Jennifer McKay, Lillian Lea.

Wedding anniversaries this week: Michael & Kimberly Duck, Larry & Patricia Kraft, AJ & Jenifer Polanco, Steve & Elizabeth Channon.

Coffee Hour is provided today by the Bailey and Bruce Families. Please join us in Meirs Hall for coffee, tea, treats, and share this special time together. We look forward to seeing you!

Sanctuary Flowers have been donated today by Jackie Asafu-Adjaye in thanksgiving for the birth of Myles Emmanuel Apau-Asante.

Please remember in your prayers those suffering with short-term illness: Father Dirk, Tara Lynn R., Ernie, Colleen, Jack, Karen, Harry, Barbara, Bobby, Joyce, Mary, Jamie, Gary, Rick, Kim, Jessica, Katie, Noreen, Scott, Brenna S., Chrissy, Carol P., Ken R., Ray, George, Maria, Don B., Kim V., JoAnn, Eve C, John B, Ann, Janet, Dick, Noelle S., Skalka Family.

Please remember in your prayers those suffering with long-term illness: Joy O. & Family, Kim, Maureen, Tony, Shelly B., Patricia G., Eve C., Jenny W., Jack, Paul, Peter, Michael, Donna, Maureen, Kate, Bill, Katelyn, Amelia, Nora, Mark Sk., James L., Phil & Carol, Tom, Ellen, Roger & Lynda, Angela, Glenda S., Matthew B., Olivia, Joann, Marna, Billy, Yu-Wei Tan, Stef E., Pat, Rita, Erik, Fiona, Spencer, Ilona, Larry, Joyce, Tom E., Judy E., Skip, Kemi, Susan, Jim, Bob, Renee V., Henry, Ethan, Jordan, Beau, Devon, Lily, Gabriel, Nora, Marnie.

Pray for those who are serving at home and abroad: Alexander, James, Gabriel, Luke, Stephen, John Michael, Brendan.

September Outreach – Better Beginnings Center's mission is "to provide high-quality affordable childcare and programs that contribute to the educational, physical, social and character development of individual children in a safe and healthy environment." Their programs support 2 ½ to 13-year-old youths and give their parents the ability to remain employed or attend a full-time training/education program and, therefore, be self-supporting and contributing members of the community. The Hightstown Center is located on North Main Street. Please consider giving generously to this September Outreach.

We're Recruiting Acolytes!

Saint David's is seeking new acolytes to serve at the 10 am service and other special services as scheduled. Our acolyte ministry is intergenerational - youth age 10 or older and adults serve together. Acolytes assist in the liturgy by carrying the Cross and Torches in procession, lighting the candles, and handing the various communion items to the clergy as they set the Altar. We provide training, and as acolytes gain experience, they are recognized at various levels. If you are interested, please speak with Leslie Terhune (leslieterhune@yahoo.com), Father Dirk, or Deacon Carol.

Help Build a House!
First Presbyterian (Hamilton Square) / Saturday, September 26 / 9:00 am

On Saturday Sept 26, the First Presbyterian Church of Hamilton Square will be holding a Unity Build. This build will construct the entire frame of a home for a disadvantaged family. Saint David's parishioners have donated timed in the past. If you are interested, please see John Patterson for more information.

Welcome Gathering for Newcomers' – Sunday, September 27

As we begin a new ministry season this fall, we are pleased to invite you to our Welcome Gathering for Newcomers" on Sunday, September 27, 2026 after the 10am service. This special meeting is designed for everyone who is new to St. David's or who would simply like to learn more about our parish family. For more information, please see Deanna Emerson.

Stewardship & Fundraising Survey Summary

Thank you to everyone who completed the recent Stewardship & Fundraising Survey! Your responses, insights and comments are helping to guide our next steps as we develop our 2027 plans.

We love hearing about what you want to see and how you want to help St. David's grow and thrive.

We also appreciate that times change, needs change, and interest can wax and wane. We are grateful to the many who step in to contribute time, talent and treasure. You are seen and appreciated!

We heard you want to have more opportunity to connect with each other: Trivia & Movie Nights were favorites mentioned. You also asked us to explore new ideas to raise funds for our church and our communities - stay tuned as we finalize a new event for Spring 2027.

If you are interested in helping or staying in the know about stewardship and fundraising, reach out to Natalie Retif at taliaraekrauser@gmail.com Thank you for being part of the St. David's family in faith.

Save the date for upcoming fall/winter concerts at St. David's

- **Sunday, Oct 4, 2026:** Organ Recital featuring Ben Berman
- **Sunday, Nov 1, 2026:** Princeton Brass Band Halloween Concert (3:00 p.m.)
- **Sunday, Dec 6, 2026:** Princeton Brass Band Holiday Concert (3:00 p.m.)
- **Sunday, Dec 13, 2026:** New Jersey Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert (4:00 p.m.)

2026-2027 St. David's Episcopal Church, Cranbury, NJ
Sunday School Enrollment Application, Consent Form, and Liability Waiver

Parent Name:_____

Street Address:_____Phone Number: _____

City/State/Zip: _____Email Address: _____

I, the undersigned, hereby consent to my child participating in the Sunday School program at St. David's, and to the use of my child(ren)'s name(s), voice recording(s), and photograph(s) / likeness(es) in any and all videotapes, photographs, slides, audiotapes, or any other visual or audio reproduction in which my child may appear, alone or with others, for St. David's Episcopal Church. I understand that these materials may be used for various purposes, including but not limited to marketing, and providing information and/or updates on the website of the Lifelong Christian Formation Program of St. David's which includes evangelism.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by St. David's masking and distancing guidelines, which may be updated from time to time.

I hereby release and hold harmless St. David's and its staff, representatives, and teachers, from any and all claims, liabilities, expenses and damages that may be connected, directly or indirectly, with: (a) my child(ren) attending Sunday School at St. David's, and (b) the use of my child(ren)'s name(s), photograph(s)/likeness(es), and/or voice recording(s) hereunder.

Signed_____Date_____
Parent / Guardian of the child[ren] printed below

Please bring completed forms on Sept. 13 or you can leave in Sunday School mailbox in the church office.

Child's name:_____

DOB:_____ Grade as of Sept. 2026:_____

Allergies/Special Instructions: _____

_____

Child's name:_____

DOB:_____ Grade as of Sept. 2026:_____

Allergies/Special Instructions: _____

_____

Calendar of Events 2026-2027

Sept: 13, 20, 27
Oct: 4, 11, 18, 25
Nov: 1, 8, 15, 22
Dec: 6, 13, 20
Jan: 10, 17, 24, 31
Feb: 7, 14, 21, 28
March: 7, 14, 21
Apr: 4, 11, 18, 25
May: 2, 9, 16, 23
June: 6

Serving Today

	8 am	10 am
Celebrant	**The Rev. Dirk C. Reinken**	**The Rev. Dirk C. Reinken**
Director of Music		**Dr. Brian Katona**
Eucharist Ministers		**Tricia Metzger** **Corinne Peters**
Lay Readers	**Colleen Fitzgerald** **Karen Wade**	**Kate O'Connor** **Corinne Peters**
Intercessor	**Jon Harding**	**Natalie Retif**
Acolytes	**Jon Harding**	**Kaylyn Eswine** **Tracy Smires** **Joseph Eswine**
Ushers	**Jon & Renee Christiansen**	**Obafemi Sonubi** **Carol Hartmaier**
Presenters		**Virginia Davis** **Carol Hartmaier**
Verger		**Maria Eswine**
Counters		**Mary Ann White** **Tena Achen**

Welcome, Visitors! If you are a visitor or newcomer to our worship this morning, please print your name, address and phone number in the guest book in the Narthex also complete the Member Connect form on the back of bulletin. To learn more about the Episcopal Church or St. David's, please take a copy of our current newsletter located on the table by the guest book. **Free Wifi: Withopenarms**

Saint David's Episcopal Church
Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 10 am – 3pm
Visit stdavidscranbury.com for more information

Rector: The Rev. Dirk C. Reinken
Email: Rector@stdavidscranbury.com
Tel: 609-468-7383

Priest Associate: The Rev. T. James Hargrove

Deacon: The Rev. Carol Patterson
Email: Deacon@stdavidscranbury.com
Tel: 609-915-5162

Director of Music: Dr. Brian Katona
Email: briankatona@gmail.com
Tel: 732-343-2363

Parish Administrator: Judy Henningsen
Email: office@stdavidscranbury.com
Tel: 609-655-4731

Treasurer: John Patterson
Email: treasurer@stdavidscranbury.com
Tel: 609-847-9468

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, 9/13	8 am Holy Eucharist II 10 am Holy Eucharist II, Choir, Church School, Blessing of Backpacks 3 pm Hall Rental
Monday, 9/14	9:30 am / 10:30 am / 5:30 pm Jazzercise 5:30 Evening Prayer (Zoom)
Tuesday, 9/15	8:30 am Jazzercise 1 pm Board Game Day
Wednesday, 9/16	9:00 am / 10:30 am / 5:30 pm Jazzercise 9:30 am Healing Service 7:00 pm Pentecostal Service
Thursday, 9/17	8:30 am Jazzercise 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 9/18	Office Closed 9:00 am / 10:30 am Jazzercise
Saturday, 9/19	9 am Jazzercise 9 am – 5 pm New Life Fellowship 7 pm Pentecostal Service
Sunday, 9/20	8 am Holy Eucharist II 10 am Holy Eucharist II, Choir, Church School, Blessing of Backpacks

Looking Ahead

Sunday, 9/27:	**11 am Welcome Gathering for Newcomers'**
Sunday, 10/4:	**12:30 pm Blessing of the Animals**
	Organ Concert featuring Ben Berman

Please note: Self-help meetings in Meirs — Mon–Fri: 7:00 AM & 12:30 PM (AA); Tues: 12 PM (ACOA); Wed: 7:30 PM (NA); Thurs: 8 PM (NJRC).

✂ ----------

Member Connect Information Card

Please help us keep our parish records current. If you are a new member of our parish family, or if your contact information has changed, please complete the form below and return to the church office.

We especially appreciate updated phone numbers and email addresses. Thank you!

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone:_____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ Preferred Contact Method: ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ Text

Would you like to join our weekly eblast? ☐ Y / ☐ N