



**Making disciples who make disciples**  
**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 4, 2020**

**Church Worship & Office Location**

2215 S 8th Ave, Yuma, AZ 85364  
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(928) 247-4001

[fr.mansfield@gmail.com](mailto:fr.mansfield@gmail.com)

Dcn Linda Stokes, Assisting Clergy  
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**Worship Service Times**

**Sunday 11:30 a.m. & Wednesday 5:30 p.m.**

**Church Mailing Address:**

**PO Box 2919  
Yuma, AZ 85366**

**Find us Online: [ctryuma.org](http://ctryuma.org)**

**Find us on Facebook:**



Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church,  
A Christian Community

**Parish Council Members**

*Senior Warden*

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*Junior Warden*

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**Next Parish Council Meeting**

**October 28, 2020**

Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church has returned to **public gathering** for our worship services as well as continuing the Facebook live streaming.  
Worship begins at 11:30 a.m.

**Fore Word — Paul's Pedigree**

When a passage begins with the phrase, "*if anyone else,*" we need to look back at the passages that precede it to find who the first person is in the discussion. That's the case in this week's passage from Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

*If anyone else thinks to put confidence in the flesh, I can do so more: — Phil 3:4 (LEB)*

A group frequently mentioned in Paul's letters and the Book of Acts that was especially guilty of putting "confidence in the flesh" was the Judaizers. They consistently impeded Paul's efforts by their misinterpretation of Christ's message by adding works under Mosaic Law to their faith in Jesus. The Hebrew Old Testament requirement of circumcision was especially important to them. The Jews were known to be God's chosen people and God was free to save anyone he wanted (even Gentiles), but of course he would make them Jewish first. It was logical, but wrong. Peter's vision and subsequent visit to the Roman centurion (about as Gentile as one could possibly get) in Acts 10 shows the Holy Spirit alighting upon the Gentile believers *in the same way* as upon the Jewish disciples at Pentecost in Acts 2. The Judaizers were more concerned with maintaining the purity of Judaism than with God being glorified through drawing everyone to him. In their minds, God would not sully his kingdom with Gentile dogs; they must first be made part of his people by conforming to Mosaic Law, under which the first and most notable act would be circumcision.

So, Paul tells the Philippians that these Judaizers are the real "dogs," that they are doing evil by forcing Gentiles into "mutilating their flesh" (Phil 3:2). Paul then describes Christians

as the real circumcision, by the Holy Spirit and their faith in Christ Jesus, not by misplaced confidence in physical works (“the flesh”). Paul then declares his Jewish qualifications to reinforce his point that if Jewishness was the means to salvation, he had much better credentials than the Judaizers who were trying to influence the Philippians.

*<sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, from the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born from Hebrews, according to the law a Pharisee, <sup>6</sup> according to zeal persecuting the church, according to the righteousness in the law being blameless. — Phil 3:5–6*

Paul shows that there was a time when he had put confidence in the flesh, but no longer accepted that belief. The status he held as a Jewish leader was gone when he accepted Jesus as the Messiah. And he is happy to have suffered that loss.

*But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have considered loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I even consider all things to be loss because of the surpassing greatness of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for the sake of whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and consider them dung, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and may be found in him, not having my righteousness which is from the law, but which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God on the basis of faith, <sup>10</sup> so that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. — Phil 3:7–11*

Our translation of the Greek word Paul used (*skubala*) as dung is correct but doesn't quite capture the intensity Paul seemed to intend. The word appears only once in the New Testament, so we have to look at other contemporary Greek writings for the typical usage. In a text about a much-lamented sea

voyage, the author used the word to describe a corpse found partially eaten by fish. Unlike the modern idea of cow chips or fertilizer, the word is meant to bring a level of intense disgust to the reader. That revulsion is what Paul deliberately conveyed to the Philippians in describing the things he had spent his whole life working toward.

Having left all that behind, Paul is continuing a daily journey to following Jesus' commands and guidance in his life to eventually achieve holiness when he finishes as his reward. He is clear about God's sanctification being an ongoing process in our lives that he had not yet attained. We do not become perfect at Baptism, just forgiven.

*Not that I have already received this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on if indeed I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ.*

*<sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider myself to have laid hold of it. But I do one thing, forgetting the things behind and straining toward the things ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. — Phil 3:12–14*

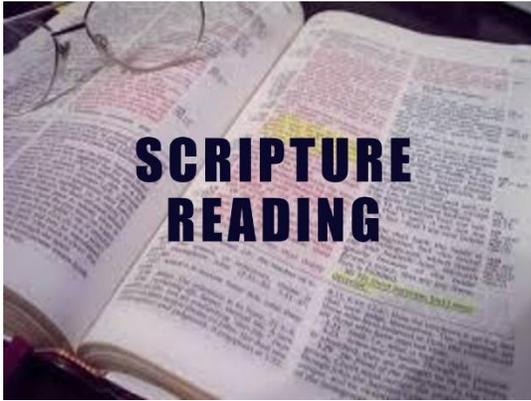
Like Paul, we are called to “press on” toward the goal God promises us in Christ Jesus. Attempting to follow Mosaic Law as a people who never received it (*Rom 2:14 “For whenever the Gentiles, who do not have the law...”*), is not Scriptural according to Paul. It is a rejection of the sufficiency of the cross by adding requirements beyond what Jesus provides in the Gospel message. Paul offers a clear warning against this notion consistently in his letters (especially Galatians, Colossians, and Romans).

Circumcision of our hearts is the Holy Spirit's doing and is the expected and sufficient response to Christ's sacrifice on our behalf.

Your Brother in Christ,

Fr. Austin

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## Readings for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80:7-14  
Philippians 3:4b – 14  
Matthew 21:33-46



### Those Who Serve (October 4)

Altar Guild ~ Jennifer Kircher  
Usher ~ Jim Slater  
Lessons ~ Frank Durham  
Prayers ~ Ann Traverso  
Chalice ~ Alan Kircher & Sherri Wayman



Are you available Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m.? Prayers and Squares has begun meeting again and can use your help. Currently there are only 3 people working on the beautiful quilts. More hands are needed. Even if

you can't sew there are ways you can help out. Contact Ann Traverso for more information. She'll be glad to answer any questions you may have.

## Prayer, Praise and Healing Service

Our first Prayer, Praise and Healing service held Sept 16<sup>th</sup> was a success! We had about 25 attendees, great music, and a personal testimony by Alan Kircher. Our next service will be on Oct 21<sup>st</sup> (third Wednesday of the month). The focus of that service will be HEALING OF OUR NATION. Please pray for God's continued blessing, as we strive to bring Christ's healing touch into our world. Deacon Linda



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### Sunday, October 4

11:30a.m. Worship Service – Blessing of the Animals

### Tuesday, October 6

6:30 a.m. Bible Study – Job  
9:30 a.m. Prayers and Squares

### Wednesday, October 7

2:00 p.m. Bible Study - Pauline Letters (Romans)  
5:30 p.m. Worship Service

### Sunday, October 11

11:30 a.m. Worship Service



## CTR PRAYER PROJECT

**James 5:7-9-Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!**

Lord, we ask you to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in sickness, or any other adversity. Open the hearts to know your love and feel your presence.

We pray for Sue, Scotty Haskell, St. Paul's Church (Payson, AZ), Christopher Randle, Diane Manning, Fr. Austin, Bishop Keith, Abbie Bundy, Alfredo & Lilian Campa, Betty (Bo Peep) Penny, Donna, Kate Campa, Dcn. Linda, Lorraine Chavez, Steve Chacon, Merle Shyne, Laura, Darlene O., Maddy, Lauren, Steven, Elena, Officer Shay K. Mikalonis, Niki, Roni, Bob, Carol, Mickey Greenlund, Zachary, Kathy Watson, Tyler, and Pray for the World.

*If you would like to submit prayer requests for this newsletter or if you have any updates, please contact the church office at 928-343-9551, or [ctryuma@gmail.com](mailto:ctryuma@gmail.com)*

### PRAYERS FOR THE DEANERY OF ARIZONA

**The Right Rev. Keith and Gail Andrews**, Bishop of the Diocese of Western Anglicans

**The Very Rev. Thomas and Elizabeth Phillips**, Dean of the Deanery of Arizona

**Spencer Johnson**, President of the Executive Committee of the Diocese

**Roger Pelham**, Chairman, the Steering Committee of the Deanery

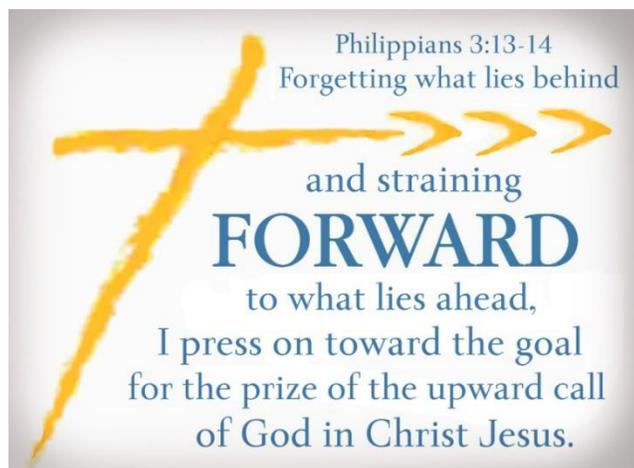
My husband and I were "farmers" for only a short time, but we've worked with farmers most of our lives. Here in Yuma, we paid the farming bills monthly, but the harvest only came once a year. We always hoped it would not only cover the costs we had already incurred, but also leave a little extra for us to do other things with. And when we were working with the farmers in Mexico, we always knew that they were dependent on a good harvest to enable them to plant the next season's crop and be able to purchase needed farm or irrigation equipment. When I was in college, my uncle reminded me that patience is a great virtue. (I even named my first car "Patience".) Patience teaches us to depend on God and His timing, not our own. Farmers can't rush a crop, no matter how much water and fertilizer they apply. And we can't bring the Lord back any sooner, no matter how hard we pray or how good we are at growing His kingdom. In a year like this one, we have a tendency to grow impatient. We want to move things along a little faster than they are currently moving. End the pandemic. Open up the schools and churches. Replace the take-out meals with in-house dining. Get rid of the masks. Get rid of the arrows going the "wrong way" in the grocery aisles. Open the banks. And it doesn't stop there. We're not just impatient with the businesses and services, but we're also impatient with people. Can't you drive any faster? What's wrong with this Cashier? I knew I should have gotten in the other drive-thru lane! Why must I be on telephone hold this long? Where's our waiter? The Epistle of James was written by our Lord's brother, a leader in the Church in Jerusalem. It may have been the earliest book in the New Testament. This Epistle focuses on genuine faith, and James makes the point that genuine faith waits patiently for the coming of the Lord. Problems and obstacles may

occur along our way, but Christ's promise to return at any time should keep us from complaining when they do. If we have genuine faith, it should show in our attitude toward difficult situations and our attitude toward others. Impatience has no place in God's kingdom. If we believe that all things work for good when we are in Christ, we should behave as though our waiting has a divine purpose. The world may be impatient, but we're not of this world; we're just visitors here. Genuine faith must make itself visible in all we say and do. If our thoughts have turned to complaining and our tongues have turned to belittling, the quality of our faith must be in question. Faith without works cannot be called faith, and our works, as we wait for our Lord's return, need to demonstrate an abundant supply of patience.

**Praying in One Accord**-When we are praying in one accord with God's timetable, not ours, we will have all the patience we need to face the problems and obstacles of this world.

**Accord Prayer**-Lord Christ, You have promised to return when the Father indicates the time is right; in the meantime, help us wait for Your harvest and patiently face any obstacles You place in our path. In Your Name we pray. Amen.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**-Omniscient Father, You and You alone know when Christ will return; thank You for teaching us patience, perseverance, and faithful dependency on You. Amen.



## Righteousness Through Christ Philippians 3:5-14

B A I E Y I S R A E L A I D  
 N A T I O N D I B E I N G E  
 O C A D W U C G L I C I B T  
 S C L C S M H H T G H I B F  
 B O R N I O U T J H R Y E G  
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 A D A B D E C O V H S I J S  
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 A N Y P E A O S M U N S M F  
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 T A C E N E U E S O I C N E  
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 I N P H A R I S E E D B E E  
 N S T E E B E C A U S E W D  
 G V Z P U T O W A R D S R L

ACCORDING	ALREADY	BECAUSE
BEING	BENJAMIN	BLAMELESS
BORN	CHRIST	CHURCH
CIRCUMCISED	CONSIDER	EIGHTH
EVEN	FAITH	GAIN
HEBREW	HOLD	ISRAEL
JESUS	LAI	LOSS
MORE	NATION	PERSECUTING
PHARISEE	PRESS	RESURRECTION
RIGHTEOUSNESS	SUFFERED	THING
TOWARD	TRIBE	ZEAL

