



**Making disciples who make disciples**  
*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
**October 11, 2020**

**Church Worship & Office Location**

2215 S 8th Ave, Yuma, AZ 85364  
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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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**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.

***In Word – Mirrors of Christ***

Paul is writing from prison to the Church in Philippi to encourage them through some difficulties they're going through.

The passage for this week begins with "Therefore," and (as I frequently mention), whenever you see a passage starting with "therefore" you need to see what it's there for.

In Chapter 3, Paul reminds them that they need to focus on spiritual things instead of earthly ones, and to follow his example in living like Jesus lived:

*Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. — Philippians 3:17 (NRSV)*

The term translated as "join in imitating" is really two words: *symmimētai ginesthe*. The first means "to join others as an imitator," while the second means "to acquire certain characteristics." In other words, unlike the imitations we see by entertainers like Rich Little, this imitation is intended to help us actually become what we are imitating. Paul refers back to this admonition later in this week's passage (4:1-9).

So, having warned them that an earthly focus leads to destruction and that salvation is through Jesus Christ

alone, Paul says:

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. — Philippians 4:1(NRSV)*

He then admonishes the congregation for a conflict that seems to be growing between two of the women lay leaders there:

*I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.  
<sup>3</sup> Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. — Philippians 4:2-3*

The “loyal companion” to which Paul refers is the entire congregation, as he addressed his opening statement:

*... To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi ... — (1:1)*

Notice that Paul doesn’t elaborate on the topic or source of the disagreement between Euodia and Syntyche. His heart grieves for the division caused by their falling out, not the cause of it. Paul calls on the congregation to intervene and repair the division that is hindering their work of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Also, cartoons of St. Peter at Heaven’s Gate with a huge book and quill notwithstanding, “book of life” is a metaphor. Books had not yet been invented. Animal skins or papyrus were used for writings, and the image depicted by the phrase is of a permanent status that can’t be changed on a whim, as erasers also had not yet been invented.

Knowing the permanence of our salvation, Paul then reminds them to rejoice in all circumstances. Remember, Paul is writing this encouragement as a

Roman prisoner, hardly the happiest of circumstances. Yet because he understands the temporary nature of our earthly existence, both good things and bad, he remains joyful because of the eternal glory he knows is his through Christ:

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. — Philippians 4:4-7*

Paul then reminds us to focus our thoughts on good and holy things, not revenge, or anger, or unforgiveness, or that grudge against a brother or sister we’ve been carrying around. He says to think about the things that are godly:

*Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. — Philippians 4:8–9*

We often hear or see posted on Facebook memes, something similar to “*We aren’t called to be like other Christians; we’re called to be like Christ.*”

What a load of nonsense. Few Christian statements are more misguided or flawed than that one. What do we think “*Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me*” means if not to be like Paul? Disciples follow their rabbi not just to learn God’s word, but to implement

it in their lives the way they see it being done by that particular rabbi. The discipling process is done by human beings here on earth, not by Jesus. In the Great Commission (Matt 28:17-20), Jesus tells his apostles to make disciples, and gives them things to include (baptizing, traveling, teaching). Disciples follow their teacher. Paul specifically mentions imitating him, with the intention of becoming like him, twice in this one letter, and also in his letter to the Church in Corinth:

*I appeal to you, then, be imitators of me. —  
1 Corinthians 4:16*

*“Don’t follow me; follow Jesus” is a modern construction that really means “I enjoy some of these sins you shouldn’t be doing, and I don’t intend to change my behavior, so do as I say and not what I do.”*

Paul reminds us in this passage that we may be the only Jesus that some people ever see. It would be a shame if they reject him because of what they see in us.

In Christ,  
Fr. Austin

† † †



### Readings for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Isaiah 25:1-9*  
*Psalm 23*  
*Philippians 4:1-9*  
*Matthew 22:1-14*

## Those Who Serve (October 11)

Altar Guild ~ Mary Sue Houston  
Ushers ~ Randy & Patti Smith  
Lessons ~ Al Manning  
Prayers ~ Connie Whitener  
Chalice ~ Mary Sue Houston & Jeffrey Polston



## Prayer, Praise and Healing Service Wednesday, October 21 5:30 p.m. “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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday, October 11

11:30a.m. Worship Service

### Tuesday, October 13

6:30 a.m. Bible Study – Job

9:30 a.m. Prayers and Squares

### Wednesday, October 14

2:00 p.m. Bible Study - Pauline Letters (Romans)

5:30 p.m. Worship Service

### Sunday, October 18

11:30 a.m. Worship Service



copies available at church on Sunday. If you missed the email, please let the office know. Thank you!

## Yahweh the Shepherd (Psalm 23)

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 Connie, Family of Kate Campa, Sue, Scotty Haskell, St. Paul's Church (Payson, AZ), Christopher Randle, Diane Manning, Fr. Austin, Bishop Keith, Abbie Bundy, Betty (Bo Peep) Penny, Donna, 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*

### PRAYERS FOR THE DEANERY OF ARIZONA

**The Rev. Steven and Darci Balog, with their children Nicholas, Jonathan, Ashely, and James,** Holy Spirit Anglican Fellowship, Prescott, AZ

**Ryan and Noleen Thurman, with their children Ethan, Keilah, Micah, and Eleyana,** the House Church, "Apprenticeship to Jesus," serving Grand Canyon University, Phoenix



**TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND**

Brochures and Registration forms for Fr. Austins' trip to Israel were emailed on Wednesday. There will be a few paper

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

ANOINT	ANYTHING	BECAUSE
COMFORT	CORRECT	DARK
DAVID	EVEN	EVIL
FEAR	GRASSY	HEAD
LACK	LEADS	LIFE
MAKES	NAME	OPPRESSORS
PASTURES	PATHS	PREPARE
PRESENCE	PSALM	QUIET
RESTORES	SAKE	SHEPHERD
STAFF	TABLE	VALLEY
WALK	WATERS	WHEN