

Sunday June 2, 2019 Seventh Sunday of Easter (Ascension Sunday)

1 Thessalonians: Practicing Resurrection "Grief & Hope"

Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today in worship. We hope you find City Church to be a warm, welcoming community—regardless of your background, beliefs, or life situation. To that end, we recognize that certain parts of the service may feel unfamiliar, so we've provided brief explanations throughout this guide.

Our worship is "liturgical." The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

On pages 19-22, you'll find information about our community. We hope this helps you get to know us better and that, in turn, we can get to know you better. Help us welcome you by filling out the contact sheet on the back page and placing it in the offering basket or in our hands after the worship service.

All to say, we are glad you are here and look forward to meeting you.

— The Pastoral Staff *Tuck Bartholomew, Chris Currie, Jonathan Davis*

Sunday Info

UCity

- **Nursery, Room 111** Children 4 24 months for the duration of the service
- **Children's, Church Room 112–113** Children ages 2 through 5th grade dismiss just before the sermon. 1st – 5th graders will return prior to communion.
- Adult Ed Class No classes are currently meeting.
- Accessibility A wheelchair ramp and elevator are on site. A greeter can assist you.
- **Coffee** is available in the SE hallway at 10:15am and before Adult Ed classes when offered.

Fairmount

- Nursery, 2nd floor Blue Room Children 4 36 months for the duration of the service
- **Children's Church, 2nd floor Green Room** Children ages 3 through 5th grade dismiss just before the sermon. 1st – 5th graders will return prior to communion.
- Accessibility A wheelchair ramp is on site. A greeter can assist you.

Reflection

Faith is a footbridge that you don't know will hold you up over the chasm until you're forced to walk onto it. I'm standing now, over the chasm. I inspect the bridge. Am I deluded in believing that in God the question shouted out by the wounds of the world has its answer? ...I cannot dispel the sense of conducting my inspection in the presence of the Creating/ Resurrecting One.

- Nicholas Wolterstorff, Lament for a Son

Church Calendar

ADVENT CHRISTMAS EPIPHANY LENT EASTER PENTECOST ORDINARY TIME The fullness of the resurrection requires more than a day to unpack. The Easter season is a fifty-day celebration that ends on Pentecost Sunday (the Greek word pentekoste means "fiftieth"). The Easter season is a time to let the implications of the resurrection sink in deeper, inviting us to realign our worldview and conform our living to the reality that we have been raised with Christ to new life. Easter is full of joy and the laughter of love the grave is empty, love has won, Christ is risen! Give yourself over to the experience of that joy—take in the absolute wonder of God's purposeful plan of salvation. (*Seeking God's Face* by Philip Reinders)

GOD SUMMONS US AS HIS PEOPLE

As we meet together each week, we recognize in the preparation that God, through his word and Spirit, gathers us into his presence and calls us into his life and mission.

Prelude

Preparation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

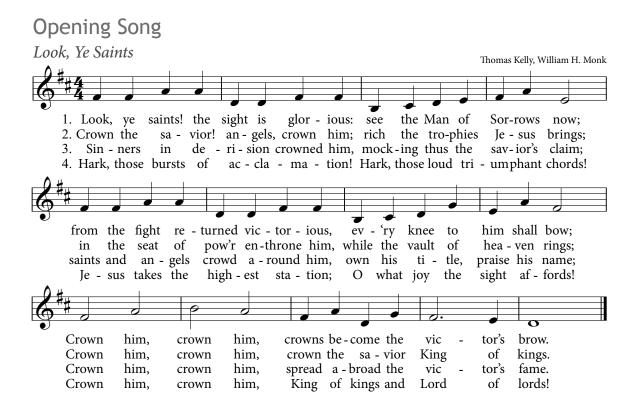
All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All And also with you.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

All the right hand of the Lord is exalted!



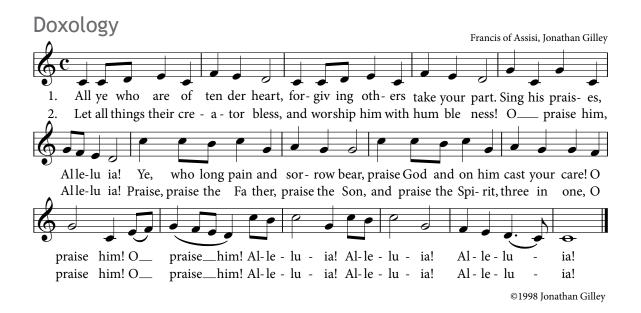
Opening of Worship

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

All shout to God with loud songs of joy.
 For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
 he is a great king over all the earth.
 He subdued peoples under us,
 and nations under our feet.
 God has gone up with a shout,
 the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
 sing praises to our King, sing praises.
 God is king over the nations;
 God sits on his holy throne.

from Psalm 47

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation



GOD SANCTIFIES US TO HIMSELF

Throughout Scripture, when people find themselves in God's presence, they sense *how far short they fall* and become aware of their own shame and brokenness In the same way, we make a confession of sin, *both as a community* and also silently as individuals. In this. we remember that God is always ready, by his mercy and grace, to forgive us.

Confession of Sin

All Jesus Christ, ascended Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.
We live anxiously, by our own strength, and do not set our hearts on things above.
We live timidly, inattentive to your promises, without hope and not standing firm.
We live for this world alone and doubt the glory to be revealed.

A period of silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May God, enthroned above, forgive you and free you from your sins and send the Spirit of Christ to rest on you, that you might be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.

All Amen.

Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving

How Sweet to Wait

Joseph Swain, Clint Wells, Karl Digerness the Lord, while he ful-fills his gra - cious word; 1. How sweet to wait up - on___ ____ 2. To see, while pros - trate at____ his feet, Je - ho - vah on the mer - cy - seat; "Fa- ther," he cries, 3. "I will_ that these be - fore thee on their ben - ded knees, 4. With this de-light - ful pros pect fired, we'll run, nor in thy ways be_ tired; to be so loved, and love a - gain! to seek his face, and not____ in__ vain, the Lord's____right hand, with his di - vine a - tone-ment stand! and Je - sus, at for whom my life once___ laid down, be with me soon on this my Ι throne." and all the tri - als here we_ see,_ will make us long to reign with thee._ may we with rev'-rence look so high; A-men! our heartswith rap-ture cry,_ as-cen- ded Sa - vior, fix our eyes, by faith up-on__ this glo-rious prize! music ©2009 Clint Wells & Karl Digerness

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord



Children attending kindergarten and younger are invited to go to their classes at this time. 1st - 5th graders are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Offering.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always. *All* And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Word of God

New Testament reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities. Gospel reading: Luke 24:44-53

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. *All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁴Then Jesus said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"Grief & Hope" - Rev. Chris Currie

Offering and Presentation of Gifts

"I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich" - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9

The offering is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at citychurchphilly. com/give. If you are visiting, please don't feel obligated to give we're grateful simply for your presence here today.

Creed

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Jesus Christ, great high priest, living forever to intercede for us, pray for the Church, your broken body in the world. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness, enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high, pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Having offered ourselves up in faith through the creed, affirming the power of God's redemption, we lift up the church, our world, and other needs to God in prayer for his provision and healing. Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God, pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress, or sorrow. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Jesus Christ, keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

And for what else should we pray?

Members of the congregation may add their own intercessions at this time, ending with,

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly as our Savior has taught us:

All 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.

Communion

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

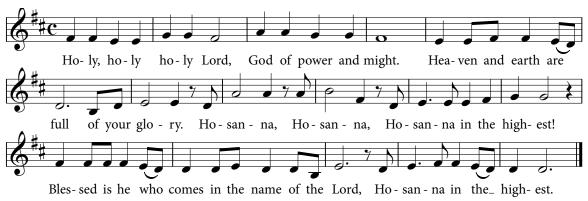
Communion, also called the Lord's *Supper, is the family* meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus *Christ to participate.* If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time *in prayer ("Prayers* for Reflection" are included below). *We hope this time is helpful to you as* you consider your relationship with *Iesus Christ and with his people, the church.*

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ the King of glory. Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human race. Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin. By the glory of his resurrection he opened the way to life eternal and by his ascension, gave us the sure hope that where he is we may also be. And so we gladly thank you,

with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

Sanctus



©2011 Bethany R Brooks

The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The minister speaks the Words of Institution.

Prayers for Reflection

Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weak and sinful, but through you, I am loved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death in order to offer me forgiveness and renewal. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow you in life. We use wine in Communion. Nonalcoholic white grape juice and a glutenfree option are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

Memorial Acclamation

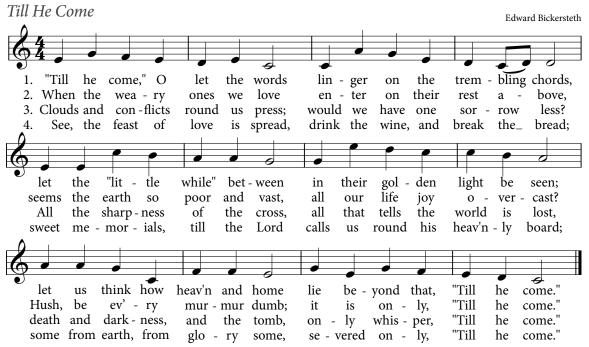
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. *All* Therefore. let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

If you would like prayer for healing and anointing with oil, please come to the back of the room after you have been served, and an elder will pray for you. This will be a time of liturgical prayer; you will not be asked to share your particular situation.

Communion Song



Prayer after Communion

All God our Father,

you have raised our humanity in Christ and have fed us with the bread of heaven: mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings, we may set our hearts in the heavenly places; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Hosanna to the Prince of Light

Isaac Watts, Wendell Kimbrough Ho prince of light, that clothed him - self san - na to the clay, 1. in 2. See how the con-queror mounts a - loft fa - ther and to his flies. 3. mor - tal tongues, Lift up your voi - ces, to reach his bles - sed___ home: tered the i - ron gates of death, and tore the bars way! en а ho - nor with scars of in his flesh and tri-umph in his_ eyes. sweet is the mu-sic of your songs to our in - car - nate God. Death no more is the king of_____dread, since our sa - vior_ rose; There our sav - ior ex - alt - ed_ reigns, bles-sings he scat-ters down; An - gels strike your lou - dest strings, sweet your voi - ces_ raise; Sa - tan's and spoiled our foe. he took sting a - way an - cient Ie - sus sits at the fa - ther's throne and wears the heav'n - ly___ crown. heav'n and all cre a - tion join our sav - ior's sing to praise!

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GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

We have responded to God's call, heard his word, offered ourselves to his service, and received strength at his table. Now, at the close of worship, God sends us out to carry forward the gospel story.

Benediction

Alleluia! Christ is risen. *All* He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

> May the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and establish you; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen

Dismissal

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

West Philly

Jonathan Bassett: liturgist Tuck Bartholomew: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice Chuck Staab: drums Andrew Warren: bass

Fairmount

Arlene Navarro: liturgist Tuck Bartholomew: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice Chuck Staab: drums Andrew Warren: bass

CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS range in size from 10-15 people and meet weekly in the home of a group member for spiritual formation and friendship. We encourage you to visit multiple groups to see which one might be a good fit. Contact a leader if you plan to visit. Contact Jonathan Davis, jona-than@citychurchphilly.com if you have questions.

West Philly

- 50th & Springfield, Tuesdays 7_{РМ} Jessie Taylor, jessie.f.taylor@gmail.com
- 49th & Chancellor, Tuesdays 7_{РМ} Candy Cason, candy.cason@gmail.com
- 46th & Cedar, Tuesdays 7:30_{РМ} Jade Avelis, jade.avelis@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Linda's, Wed 6:30_{PM} Janet Nygren, janetnygren@gmail.com
- 49th & Baltimore, Thursdays 6_{PM} Vieen Leung, vieenleung@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Dick's, Thursdays 6:30_{PM} Joel Bassett, jbassett4@gmail.com
- 51st & Chestnut, Fridays 6_{РМ} Jason Turner, jason.h.turner@gmail.com

Fairmount

- 21st & Parrish, Wednesdays 7_{PM} Chaney Widmer, chaney.widmer@gmail.com
- 24th & Brown, Thursdays 7_{РМ} Katie Wildes, km.young.wildes@gmail.com
- 22nd & Poplar, Fridays 6:30_{РМ} Liz Voboril, voborils@gmail.com

South Philly

• 12th & Wharton, Wednesdays 7:30_{РМ} Kirstin Peth, kirstin.peth@gmail.com

Roxborough

• Tuesdays 6:30^{рм} Cale Weatherly, cale.weatherly@gmail.com

FAMILY MINISTRIES come alongside families as they disciple their children, seeking to help them cultivate friendships, connect with the wider church community, and grow into maturity as people of faith.

- Children's Ministry Our children's classes use a gospelcentered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to allow them opportunities to form spiritual friendships with their peers and teachers. See page 2 for site-specific details. Contact Ginger Hayes, ginger@ citychurchphilly.com.
- City Church Youth, Sundays 12:30-2:30pm. Students and Volunteer Leaders gather at a Woodland Presbyterian Church (42 & Pine) for fellowship, bible study, and prayer. Lunch is provided each week. Contact Jonathan Davis, jonathan@citychurchphilly. com.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS Ekklesia is our mid-week, liturgically oriented, worship space for college students. We meet together to pray, sing, confess, and hear from God's Word. Contact Natalie Harvey, natalie@citychurchphilly.com.

55+ is a group of older people attending City Church who gather monthly after Sunday services for a shared meal and shared prayer. Contact Ginny Toliver, ginny. toliver@verizon.net.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BOOK

STUDY Tuesdays 9:30AM, Childcare available. Contact Eeva, eevaduddleston@gmail.com.

GROW

City Church is a community committed to

growing in our life of joy and peace through communion with God in Christ. God uses many means to form his children into his likeness. As a church family, City Church focuses on eight practices that Christians historically have embraced for their growth. At right are a few links to help you get started.

- Read about our approach to Spiritual Formation|citychurchphilly.com/spiritualformation
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox citychurchphilly.com/daily-prayer
- Check out current and upcoming Adult Ed classes | citychurchphilly.com/adult-ed

| City | World | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Serve dinners with University City Hospitality Coalition on Friday evenings at Woodland Presbyterian Church, 42nd & Pine. Contact Julia Snyder, julia.a.snyder@gmail.com Tutor 1st graders at Lea Elementary. Contact Stacy Bartholomew, stacy. bartholomew@gmail.com | Assist refugees with needs such as housing, employment, transportation, community resources, education, and social services through our partnership with HIAS Pennsylvania. Contact Esuga Abaya, esugaabaya@gmail.com Host international students for dinner. Contact Lyn Newbrander, lnewbrander@icionline.org | | |
| Bartholomew, stacy. | esugaabaya@gmail.comHost international students for dinner. | | |
| | Serve dinners with University City Hospitality Coalition on Friday evenings at Woodland Presbyterian Church, 42nd & Pine. Contact Julia Snyder, julia.a.snyder@gmail.com Tutor 1st graders at Lea Elementary. Contact Stacy Bartholomew, stacy. | | |

SERVE

GIVE

The intentional financial participation of

those who consider City Church their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own needs but to be able to serve others in our city and neighborhoods. Here are a few ways that you can contribute financially to City Church:

- Place cash or check in the offering basket on Sundays
- Give online | citychurchphilly.com/give
- Text any amount to 84321, follow the link, and select City Church Philadelphia
- Checks may be mailed or arranged through Electronic Bill Pay to be sent to: City Church, PO Box 30902, Philadelphia, PA 19104

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Love Kids? Love Jesus? Love Summer? Come enjoy all three by serving as a volunteer at this year's Summer Celebration, July 10-12 from 5-8 pm at Children's Community School in West Philly. Opportunities are available to help with 1, 2 or all 3 evenings. Contact Ginger at ginger@citychurchphilly.com. (Note: clearances are required, so please inquire soon so we can get yours processed!)

UCHC Needs Friday Night Meal Volunteers UCHC has asked City Church to organize volunteers for the Friday night meals from May-August. Volunteers help with serving the meal and cleaning up. You may also get your own plate and sit with guests between the first and second servings. There are lively conversations to be had! The meals are served at Woodland Presbyterian Church (42nd and Pine) between 5:45-7:00. Contact Julia Snyder at julia.a.snyder@gmail.com if you are interested.

Baptisms Coming up June 16 If you are interested in having your child baptized, or in being baptized yourself, please contact one of the pastors.

Help Welcome Newcomers to Philly and to City Church

Tis the season for change... help us welcome newcomers to our city and church by filling out our survey with your Philly favorites and City Church tips. You can find the survey at citychurchphilly.com/survey. We'll share the results with the whole church, so we'll all benefit from the collective wisdom!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June

9 Pentecost Sunday23 Taco Truck Sunday

16 Trinity Sunday

30 4th Sunday Prayer

July

28 Taco Truck Sunday

August

25 Taco Truck Sunday

June 2019

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 30 4 th Sunday Prayer | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 Consistory Meeting | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 80 |
| 9 Pentacost Sunday | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Trinity Sunday | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| Taco Truck | 23-29: Youth Mission Trip | | | | | |
| Sunday | | | | | | |

Staff

Tuck Bartholomew

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Bethany Brooks

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Natalie Harvey

University Ministry natalie@citychurchphilly.com 724.504.7589

Ginger Hayes

Children's Ministry ginger@citychurchphilly.com 917.583.2316

Liz Voboril

Communications Coordinator liz@citychurchphilly.com 215.740.0458

Instagram @citychurchphilly Twitter @citychurchphl Facebook @city.church.philadelphia

Help us welcome you.

| Name(s): |
|---|
| Children & their ages: |
| f undergrad or grad student, school & year: |
| |
| Address: |
| |
| Phone number(s): |
| Email(s): |
| |
| Nould you like to receive our weekly e-newsletter? 🛛 Yes 🗍 No |
| Please contact me about: |
| Community Groups |
| Neighborhood Service Opportunities |
| Volunteering on Sundays |
| □ Children's & Youth Ministries |
| Meeting with a Pastor |
| Other: |
| |

Prayer Requests

Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly on 4th Sundays. Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.

Please tear off this back page and place in the offering basket.

