

Sunday September 1, 2019

The Gospel of Mark "The Calling of Jesus"

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

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.

Reflection

Our spiritual journey must lead through the desert or else our healing will be the product of our own will and wisdom. It is in the silence of the desert that we hear our dependence on noise. It is in the poverty of the desert that we see clearly our attachment to the trinkets and baubles we cling to for security and pleasure. The desert shatters the soul's arrogance and leaves body and soul crying out in thirst and hunger. In the desert we trust God or die.

- Dan Allender, The Healing Path

Church Calendar

ADVENT
CHRISTMAS
EPIPHANY
LENT
EASTER
PENTECOST
ORDINARY TIME

We observe a season of Ordinary Time from Pentecost until Advent, which we count as weeks following Pentecost. During this time we especially remember the lives and actions of Jesus' followers. We think about how the first Christians lived their lives, and how we should live ours today. This season of Ordinary Time takes up half the year and it doesn't offer big exciting festivals such as Christmas or Easter. As a result, as one Sunday follows another, this season can begin to feel, well, ordinary.

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

Let us take a moment in silence to remember that we are in the holy presence of God.

All Amen.

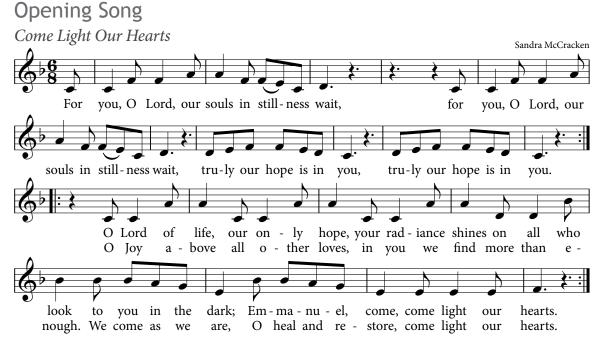
Silence is kept.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All And also with you.

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

All Let us sing joyful songs of praise!



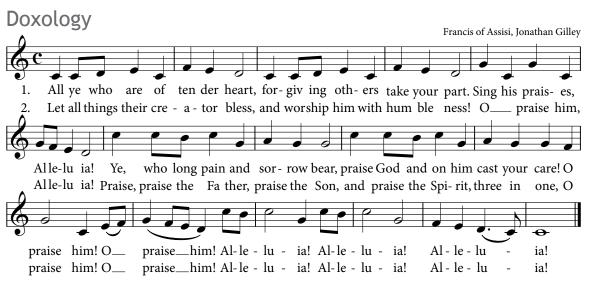
©2014 Drink Your Tea

Opening of Worship

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, All my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench. He will faithfully bring forth justice; and he will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare.

from Isaiah 42

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation



©1998 Jonathan Gilley

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 God our Father,
you have chosen us as your servants,
and you place your Spirit upon us.
Yet we have failed to bring forth justice
and grow faint and feel crushed.
We are your beloved children,
and yet we do not trust in the midst of temptation,
nor do we live as light to the nations.
Grant us grace to repent
and to believe the good news of forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May God, our Father, who delights in you, forgive you your sins, free you from darkness, and call you into a world made new.

All Amen.

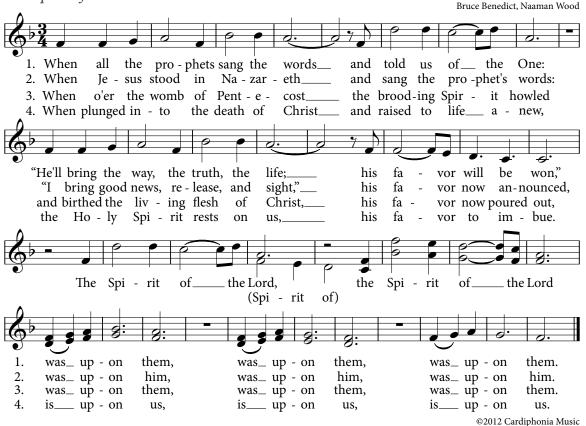
Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving

Kingdom Come



CCLI #5944929 ©2011 Broadman Press

The Spirit of the 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 Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Word of God

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the Lordshall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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: Mark 1:1-15

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

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; 3the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

 ^{14}Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"The Calling of Jesus" - Rev. Tuck Bartholomew

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

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. 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.

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.

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Heavenly Father, lead us by your Spirit, that we might turn to Christ as he speaks in the scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread. By your grace, rescue us from sin and brokenness; grant that we might serve you ever more without fear, in holiness and righteousness before you all our days. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus,

look upon nations with favor and deliver them, that they may know your kingdom of justice and mercy. Establish among all people your scepter of righteousness, and rule the hearts and minds of those who rule over us, that our feet may walk together in the way of peace. For this, O Lord, we pray.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit,

lift and bind up all those who are brokenhearted; restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen. May your coming dawn upon us and give light to all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, that we may shine forth as lights in the world. 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.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade.

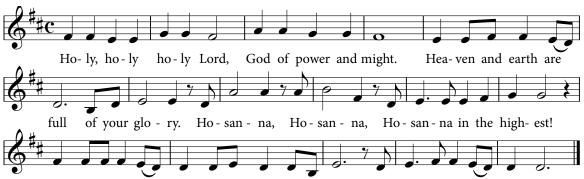
This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people, unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

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.

Sanctus



Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho-san-na in the_ high- est.

©2011 Bethany R Brooks

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.

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.

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.

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast.

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.

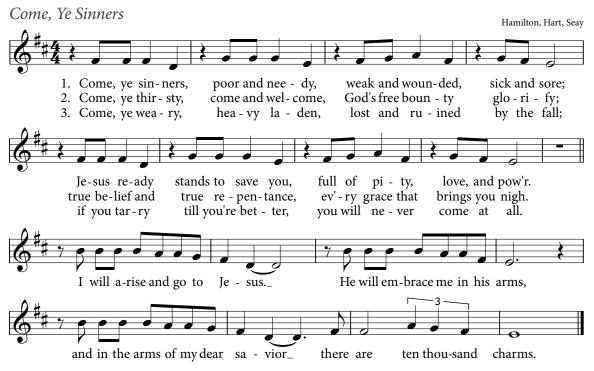
Prayer of belief

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.

Communion Song



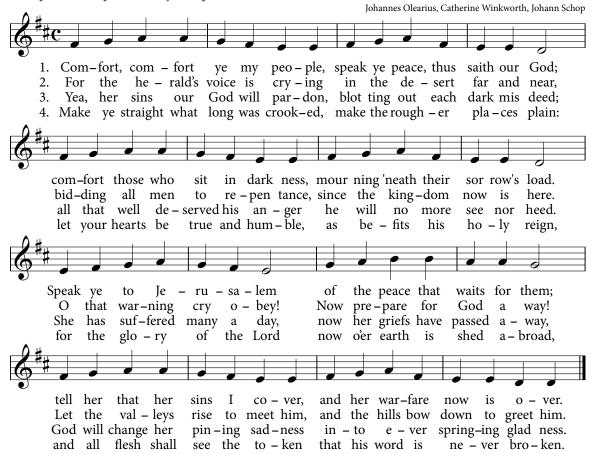
CCLI #4582588 ©2005 Birdwing Music

Prayer after Communion

All Almighty God,
We thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son.
Send us out now along your way
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



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

May God the Holy Spirit,
who called his beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
call you also to follow him
in the way of justice and peace;
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.

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice Anthony Nigro: saxophone Mike Szekely: drums

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, jonathan@citychurchphilly.com if you have questions.

West Philly

- 50th & Springfield, Tuesdays 7_{PM} Jessie Taylor, jessie.f.taylor@gmail.com
- 52nd & Larchwood, Tuesdays 7PM 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

Fairmount

- Ringgold & Poplar, Wednesdays 7pm Su Jin Kim, splujin@gmail.com
- 22nd & Poplar, Fridays 6:30_{PM} Bonnie Currie, bonnie.currie@gmail.com

South Philly

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

Roxborough

Tuesdays 6:30_{PM}
 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 gospel-centered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to allow them opportunities to form spiritual friendships with their peers and teachers. See page 2 for details. Contact Chris Currie, chris@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

SERVE

Church

Prepare the space for worship by joining one of our hospitality teams: setup, communion, coffee, greeters, and scripture readers. Contact Dan Cason (UCity), dan@citychurchphilly.com

Ryan McCormick(Fairmount),

rmmccormick@outlook.com

 Serve our children and youth. Contact Ginger Hayes (children), ginger@citychurchphilly.com Jonathan Davis (youth), jonathan@citychurchphilly.com

City

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

World

- 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, Inewbrander@isionline.org

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

Community Group Meet & Greet Today. Plan to stick around after the service to meet Community Group leaders and help get a sense of where you might want to visit when groups resume after Labor Day.

Labor Day Picnic at Ku's TOMORROW, Sept 2, 12-4 pm. An annual City Church favorite. Kickoff the fall with us at the Kus'—we'll provide the pig, beer, and lemonade; you bring a side or dessert to share and a chair/blanket. Parking is limited, so carpooling is encouraged! The house is air-conditioned and open, so feel free to come even if you know you can't be outside for the whole time. Picnic location: 825 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Penn Valley.

No Children's Church (for 1st-5th grade) Until September 8
Children's Church for kids who completed 1st through 5th grade last year is on a two-week break, beginning today. Kids are welcome to stay with their parents for the worship service. We'll resume Children's Church for this age group, moving everyone up and adding in new 1st graders, on Sunday, September 8.

Woodland Merger Info Sessions On Hold: We recently heard from the Philadelphia Presbytery (the regional body of which Woodland is a part) that they'd like to make some changes to the draft merger agreement, so we're putting the info sessions on hold for now. Once we know more about the changes, we'll get the sessions rescheduled. Please continue to pray for the Lord's leading throughout this process.

Interested in Helping with Women's Events at City Church?
Interested in helping with or planning future events for women at City Church? Please bring yourself and your ideas to the library at 9:30 am on Sunday, September 8! Both Fairmount and West Philly women welcome.

Fairmount Summer Schedule. On summer Sundays, our schedule varies. View latest at citychurchphilly.com/fairmount. If you haven't been receiving Fairmount emails but would like to stay in the loop, please email Liz at Liz@citychurchphilly.com.

ALSO IN PHILLY

Travel to Israel in 2020 with Dr. Cyndi Parker. City Church is going to Israel! Dr. Cyndi Parker is leading two trips for City Church. The February trip focuses on the historical context of the Bible (limited to 28–32 people) The May trip includes key biblical sites but focuses primarily on the modern, cultural context (limited to 14 people). Itineraries and registration links for both trips can be found at narrativeofplace.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September

- **7** Consistory Day Retreat
- **22** Congregational Meeting
- 22 4th Sunday Prayer

September 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Labor Day Picnic	Community Groups start back!				Consistory Day Retreat
Women's Events Planning	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 55+ Lunch	16	17	18	19	20	21
4th Sunday Prayer Congregational Meeting	23	24	Seekers' Group	26	27	28
29	30					

Staff

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Communications Coordinator liz@citychurchphilly.com 215.740.0458

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

Help us welcome you.

me(s):
ildren & their ages:
undergrad or grad student, school & year:
dress:
นเ ธอง.
one number(s):
nail(s):
ould you like to receive our weekly e-newsletter? Yes No
ease 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.

