



A 5-week journey into faith, belonging, and the Episcopal way of following Jesus.

For seekers, newcomers, and anyone exploring confirmation in the Episcopal Church.



About Claiming

Claiming is a five-week journey into faith, purpose, belonging, and what it means to follow Jesus in the Episcopal tradition. Designed for teens and adults considering confirmation, reception into the Episcopal Church, or simply exploring, this series offers a welcoming space to learn, ask questions, and discover why the Episcopal Church has become a spiritual home for so many. The series includes four sessions on Zoom and a final in-person gathering. Come explore what the Episcopal tradition offers—and whether this way of faith might become your own.

Week 1: Claiming Our Way in God's Story (Zoom)

Thursday, August 6, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. CT | Led by Bishop Russell Kendrick

Discover how the story of your life weaves within God's grand, evolving narrative and how the Episcopal tradition helps us read scripture with faith, wisdom, and openness.

Every spiritual journey begins with a story. In this first session, we'll explore how our lives connect to the larger story of God's love and the life of the Church. We'll introduce a helpful image—"the Episcopal room in God's mansion"—and look at how Episcopalians engage Scripture through the wisdom of Scripture, tradition, and reason. Together, we'll begin to see how faith can ground us in both the historic Christian story and our lives today.

Week 2: Claiming Our Way of Prayer (Zoom)

Thursday, August 13, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. CT | Led by the Rev. Joy Blaylock, Ph.D.

Discover how common prayer, worship, and the sacraments can shape your faith and anchor your daily life.

Episcopalians have long believed that how we pray shapes how we believe. In this session, we'll explore the Book of Common Prayer, the meaning of liturgy, and the sacramental life of the Church. From daily prayer to the Holy Eucharist, we'll look at how these ancient practices continue to form Christians in love, steadiness, and hope.

Week 3: Claiming Our Way of Belonging *(Zoom)*

Thursday, August 20, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. CT | Led by the Rev. Joy Blaylock, Ph.D.

Unpack what it means to be a part of a diverse, messy, and genuinely inclusive community where every voice matters.

Church is more than a building—it is a people shaped by prayer, covenant, and shared life in Christ. This week, we'll explore what makes Episcopal belonging distinctive: a community rooted in worship, guided by bishops, and strengthened by the ministry and leadership of lay people. We'll reflect on how the Church can hold both tradition and diversity, seeking unity in Christ without demanding sameness.

Week 4: Claiming Our Way in God's World *(Zoom)*

Thursday, August 27, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. CT | Led by the Rev. Joy Blaylock, Ph.D.

Discover how Episcopal faith sends us into the world to seek justice, serve others, and live the promises of baptism.

Faith is meant to be lived. In this session, we'll explore the creeds and the Baptismal Covenant, which call us to resist evil, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and strive for justice and peace. We'll also reflect on your unique spiritual gifts and calling, and what it means to follow Jesus in daily life for the sake of a hurting world.

Week 5: Claiming Our Way at the Table *(In Person, Pensacola, FL)*

Sunday, August 30, 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT | Co-led by Bishop Russell Kendrick and the Rev. Joy Blaylock, Ph.D.

Gather in person to reflect on the journey, share honest conversation, and discern your next step in faith.

In our final session, we'll move from screen to shared space as we gather in person for worship, conversation, and prayerful discernment. Together, we'll reflect on where God may be calling you next—toward confirmation, reception, reaffirmation, or simply a deeper journey as a seeker. Come celebrate the community we've begun to build and explore your place at God's table.

For more information, scan code or visit
www.diocgc.org/claiming.

- Register for *Claiming*
- Weekly Session Overview
- FAQs
- Resources for church leaders to promote *Claiming*
- More about the Episcopal Church

