



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

*The
Season
of
Lent*



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861 www.cccbif.org

Everything you will need to participate in today's service may be found in this booklet. Due to the pandemic, congregational singing is currently limited, and communion is offered in one kind only to avoid using the common cup. Please wear a face mask covering your nose and mouth throughout the service. UV Light Air Sanitizers are present to help provide a pathogen-free worship space. We hope that you will feel safe in this place and leave uplifted by our celebration today.

We encourage everyone, out of love and respect to all, to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Our Parish Nurse can answer any questions you may have about the vaccine. Our ushers can direct you to a Vestry Member or the Parish Nurse for more information.

If you are new or visiting for the first time, we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate located in the back of the church. Our Interim Rector would be delighted to meet you and answer any questions you might have. Please know that all are welcome here, no exceptions.

Prelude

Our Service Begins

Please stand as you are able for the procession

The Opening Sentences

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

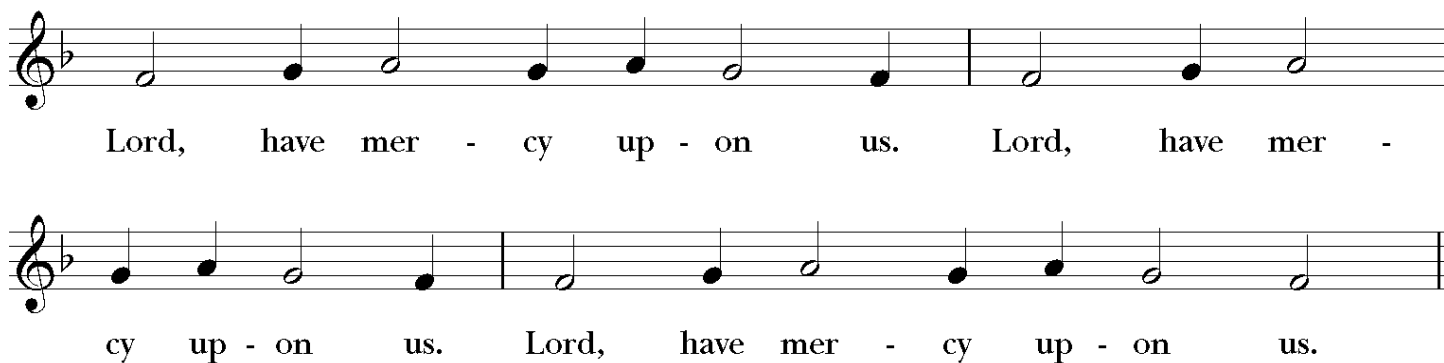
The Collect for Purity

Celebrant


Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Kyrie


The Kyrie is then sung, all standing




Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer -
cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

We Hear and Respond to God's Word

The First Lesson

Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

We will read the Psalm responsively, by whole verse

1. Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!
2. Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!
3. While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.
4. For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
5. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
6. I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
7. Therefore, all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
8. You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
9. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.
10. Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
11. Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
12. Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

The Second Lesson

II Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

So, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So, Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So, he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So, he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So, he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate; for this son

of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Lou Hays

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People, Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace especially in Russia and Ukraine; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are ill, or in any trouble, need or sorrow, especially those on our parish prayer list, and for any others we might now name, either silently or aloud. (Pause) Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have died, especially our loved ones who have gone before us, and for any others we might now name, either silently or aloud. (Pause) We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Memorial Church of the Good Shepherd, Parkersburg.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church in Myanmar.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Let us join together in the Prayer for the Transition.

Dear God, we ask for mercy and grace in this journey. We commit to the process of finding a new rector for our parish, and that it will be in your name and to your glory. We ask for insight and self-reflection, that we may know our needs, and that we may properly envision a future together, uplifting all and seeing the incredible ministries that you will share with us. We pray for the members of the Search Committee, the Vestry, and our interim Rector, as well as our bishops and their staff, that all may be blessed and guided in this search process. Open our eyes and our hearts to all possibilities, and lead us with your wisdom. May your glory shine through us in this mission we are undertaking. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Celebrant

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

Silence may be kept

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

At this time we will greet those around us in the name of the Lord. Please refrain from physical touch during this time so as to ensure proper social distancing for all members of the congregation. Thank you.

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory

After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand and sing to the familiar tune of the "Old 100th"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Celebrant and People together

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread and says

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Should you prefer not to receive the physical elements of the Holy Communion you are invited to read the following in silent prayer as the physical sacrament is being distributed.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited and welcome to receive the sacrament. Everyone, regardless of faith, is welcome to receive a blessing— simply cross your arms in front of you approach the priest. Each row, beginning in the front, should come up to the chancel step to receive the Blessed Bread. The Chalice cannot be offered at this time by direction of the Bishop of West Virginia. Once the priest has placed the wafer in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has received communion, the next is free to come to the chancel steps. Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

Our Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Solemn Prayer over the People and The Blessing

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. Amen. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, forever. Amen

The National Anthem of Ukraine

"The glory and freedom of Ukraine has not yet perished, luck will still smile on us brother-Ukrainians. Our enemies will die, as the dew does in the sunshine, and we, too, brothers, we'll live happily in our land. We'll not spare either our souls or bodies to get freedom and we'll prove that we brothers are of Kozak kin."

The Dismissal

The departing minister then says

Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Celebrant</u>	The Rev. Lou Hays
<u>Organist & Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolyte</u>	Becky Beckett
<u>Lector</u>	Mike Lilly
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Patty Richardson and Becky Beckett

Attendance Last Sunday:

26

Birthdays This Week: Liam Cole, Ann Czarnik Fernandez. Elizabeth Sudduth, and Alice Allen.

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, March 30	A Lenten Journey Through Our Faith 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 3	The Rev. Dr. Malcom Guite, Guest Speaker
Sunday, April 10	Palm Sunday 10:00am
	Building and Grounds committee meeting after Church
Tuesday, April 12	DOK meeting 10:00am
Wednesday, April 13	Union Mission 3:00pm
Thursday, April 14	Maundy Thursday - Holy Eucharist with music 7:00pm
Friday, April 15	Good Friday - Stations of the Cross 12 noon
	Good Friday Service 7:00pm

Sunday, April 17	Easter Day - The Feast of the Resurrection 10:00am Bagging Groceries after Church
Wednesday, April 20	Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
Thursday, April 21	Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am
Wednesday, April 27	Union Mission 4:00pm

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Brian, Lane, Loraine, and Sherry.

Announcements:

Easter Lilies: A sign-up sheet for those who would like to purchase Easter lilies is available at the Usher’s Table in the Narthex. Lilies will be \$15 and may be given in memory or honor of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for a blessing. Please have your donations for the lilies into the office by Sunday, April 10th if at all possible. Thank you!

Parish Life Committee: If you would like to serve on the Parish Life Committee, please sign the sheet in the front hall .

Building and Grounds: There will be a meeting of the Building and Grounds committee on April 10, 2022 after the service in Rowley Hall. All interested persons are invited to attend. Thank You.

Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Lou Hays	Interim Rector
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.	Organist & Choirmaster
Ms. Emma Bennett	Parish Administrator
Mrs. Vanessa Hall	Sexton
Mr. David Kersey	Senior Warden
Mr. Peter Richardson	Junior Warden