



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

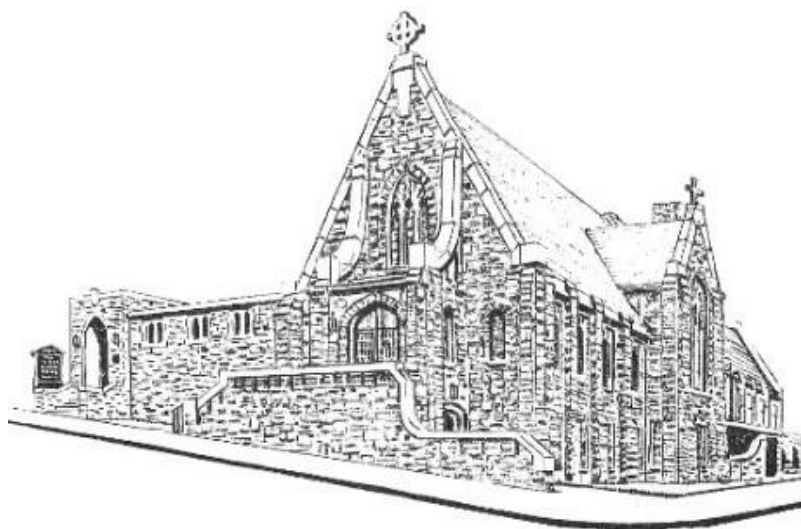
[www.christchurchbluefield.org](http://www.christchurchbluefield.org)



## The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

and being Proper XII of the Church Year

July 25, 2021



This bulletin contains our liturgy today.

During this pandemic era our worship is somewhat different. Notes about any changes are located in this bulletin. We hope that you will feel safe in this place and leave edified by our celebration of Word and Sacrament today.

The Vestry of Christ Church encourages 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 this congregation 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. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today and hope that you will continue your faith journey here.

## Prelude

### Our Service Begins

#### Processional Hymn

*God, my King, thy might confessing*

Hymnal 414

#### The Opening Sentences

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

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

*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 Gloria is then sung, all standing*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,  
 you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most  
 High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the  
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## **The Collect of the Day**

*Our collective prayer for the day*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **We Hear and Respond to God's Word**

### **The First Lesson**

*II Kings 4:42-44*

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, "They shall eat and have some left." He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God!

## The Psalm

Psalm 145:10-19

*Exaltabo te, Deus*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

10. All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.
11. They make known the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power;
12. That the peoples may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
13. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.
14. The Lord is faithful in all his words and merciful in all his deeds.
15. The Lord upholds all those who fall; he lifts up those who are bowed down.
16. The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.
17. You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
18. The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.
19. The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.

*Said together*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## The Second Lesson

*Ephesians 3:14-21*

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thank be to God!

The Gospel Lesson

*John 6:1-21*

*Please stand for the Gospel Lesson*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so, they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also, the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So, they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

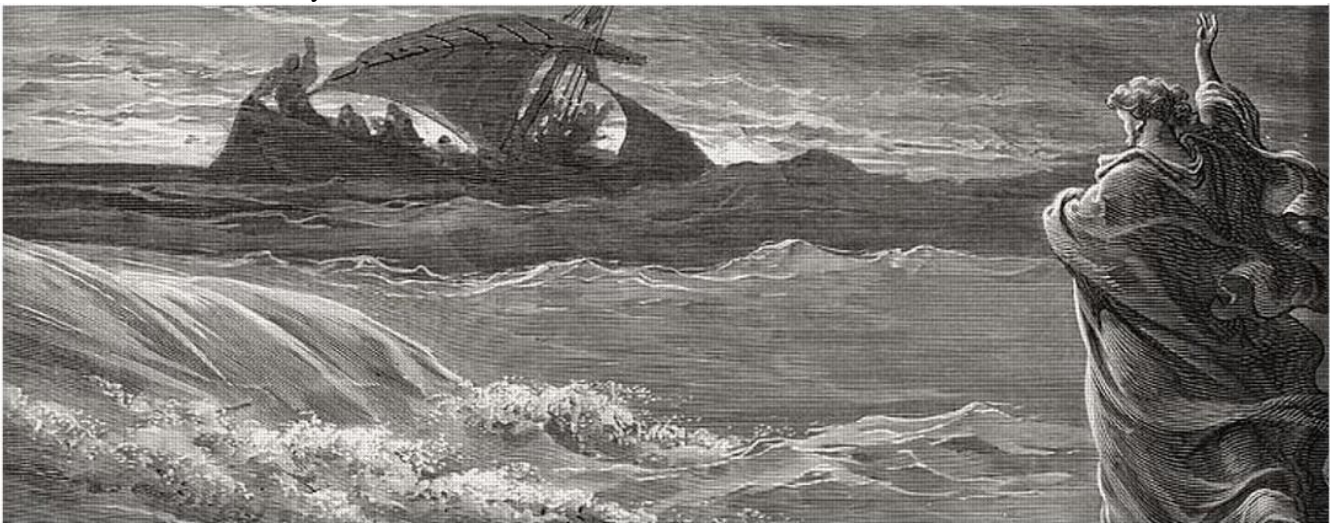


When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing.

When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

*Celebrant*     The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*         Praise to you, Lord Christ.



## The Sermon

the Very Rev. Chad Slater

## The Nicene Creed

*All stand as they 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.

*\*meaning the church universal, that all Christians are one people regardless of denomination*

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The intercessor greets the congregation with the following words and leads us in prayer.*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Mike, our own Bishop, Chad, our priest, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For those in positions of public trust, especially Ron and Donnie, our mayors, Jim and Ralph, our Governors, and Joe, our President, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, especially Becky Steorts, Joe Allen, Shirley Ofsa, and Mike Sudduth, who celebrate birthdays this week, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*



For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially those on our prayer list; for our families, friends, and neighbors and for all those we now name before you either silently or aloud...; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, especially the loved ones of Mike and Kay Sudduth, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, St. Margaret, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

*To you, O Lord our God.*

*The Celebrant then offers the concluding collect for the prayers*

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*The Celebrant then calls the people to confess their sins to God*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and People*

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*

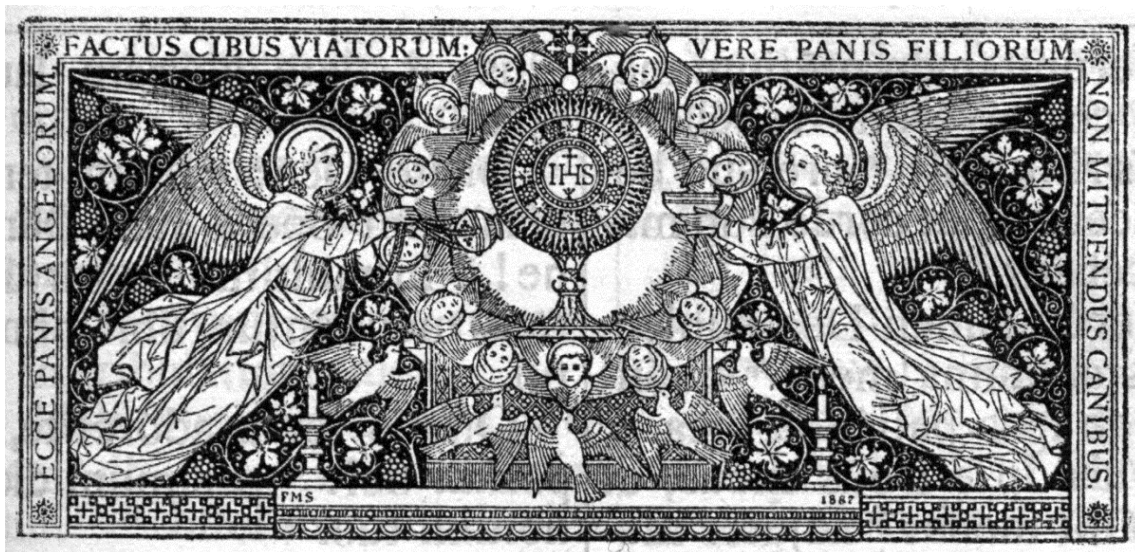
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## **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, sometimes call *The Mass***

Offertory Hymn

*I come with joy to meet my Lord*

Hymnal 304

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*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.

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

*Celebrant and People*

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.

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 ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

*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.

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

*People and Celebrant*

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,

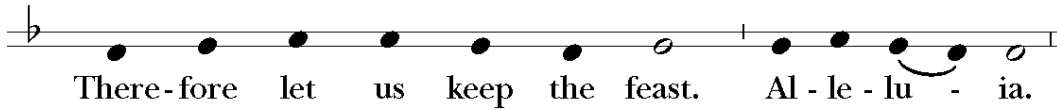
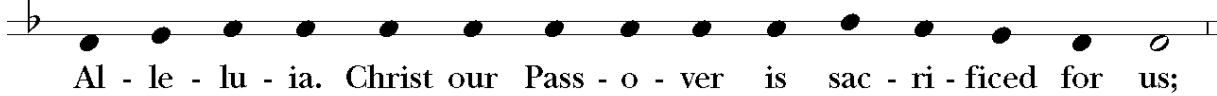
and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Fraction

*The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*



*This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.*

*The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People*

These are 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, of any tradition, are 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 dropped the Blessed Bread in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has been Communed, the next is free to come to the chancel steps.

Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

Communion Hymns

*If thou but trust in God to guide thee  
Just as I am, without one plea*

Hymnal 635  
Hymnal 693

Our Prayer after Communion

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Blessing**

*The Celebrant then pronounces the following blessing over the people*

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honor everyone;  
love and serve the Lord;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.

*People* Amen!

Recessional Hymn

*O love, how deep, how broad, how high*

Hymnal 448

**The Dismissal**

We are dismissed from this gathering to go into the world to spread the  
Good News and the love of Christ! We respond to this instruction with:

*Thanks be to God!*

Postlude



The Altar Flowers are given today by David and Debbie Faber for the greater Glory of God and to honor Doug and Elizabeth Truter on their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and his 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday.  
(Elizabeth is Debbie Faber's sister)

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Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted by Parish Life. This is a time for us to have fellowship, share our joys and sorrows, and get to know one another. It is very much an extension of the communal feast we share in the Holy Eucharist. You may remove your mask to eat or drink. Please join us.

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### **Participants in Today's Liturgy**

<u>Celebrant</u>	the Very Rev. Chad Slater
<u>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolyte</u>	Ben Slater
<u>Lector</u>	Jennifer Slater
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Linda Thomas and Chris Justice

### **Attendance Last Sunday:**

33

**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:** Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Mabeline Robinson, Bea Paine, Lynn Burney, Donna Fortune, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Kelly Cox, Dean Farmer, Haddon Lazenby, Jack Burchette, Nick, JL, Cis Barrett, Kathy, Randy Snider, Lane, Loraine, Sherry, Margarete Joplin, Emily Broome, David, Cady, Martin, Marion Lowe, Harry, Ben Rose, Jay Kephart, Rick Longworth, all Healthcare Personnel and Frontline Workers, Jack, Sheri, Dan, Kathy, Hamilton Jones, Kensley, John, Kathleen Nieman, Alan Riggins, Brenda Payne, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Elizabeth Kane, Betty, Matt, Eric, the Puckett Family

**Birthdays This Week:** Becky Steorts, Joe Allen, Shirley Ofsa, and Mike Sudduth

## **Calendar of Events**

Wednesday – August 11

Serving Dinner at Union Mission 3:00 pm

Sunday – August 15

Bagging Groceries after Church

Thursday – August 19

Food Pantry 9 – 11:00 am

Wednesday – August 25

Serving Dinner at Union Mission 4:00 pm

Friday – August 27

Bishop Candidates at St. Stephen's, Beckley

Sunday – August 29

Church Picnic 10:30 am at Lotito Park

Sunday – October 24

CEC Building 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## **Announcements:**

Coffee Hour: A sign-up sheet for hosting Coffee Hour is located in the Narthex. Please consider signing up to host this important fellowship ministry!

Church Committees: Sign-ups for Parish Committees are in the Narthex.

Confirmation Class: Bishop Klusmeyer will be joining us on Sunday, October 24 to help us celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of our church building. Fr. Chad will be holding classes for those interested in confirmation at that time. Please see him for more information.

Dinners at the Union Mission: We will resume our service preparing and serving dinner at the Bluefield Union Mission in the month of August. Please see Art Mead for more information. Thank you!

Bishop Candidates in Beckley: Candidates for Bishop Coadjutor of West Virginia will be announced soon. They will be conducting a tour of the Diocese the last week of August. These candidates will be at St. Stephen's Church, Beckley, on the evening of Friday, August 27 (time to be announced shortly). Please consider attending to get to know who these individuals are and their vision for our Diocese!



## **Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish**

the Very Rev. Chad Slater

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