



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

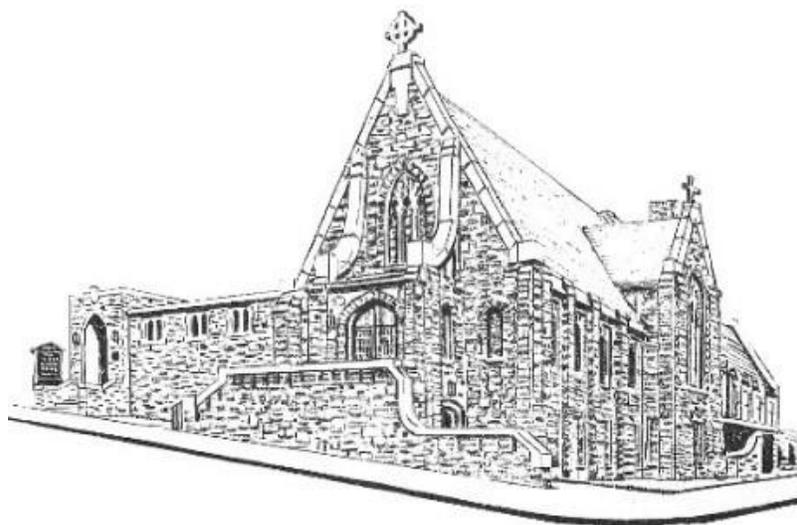
www.christchurchbluefield.org



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

and being Proper XIX of the Church Year

September 12, 2021



This bulletin contains our liturgy today.

Given the circumstances during this pandemic era our worship is somewhat different. We respectfully ask that you wear and keep a face mask on during this service. 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

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 Kyrie is then sung, all standing



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



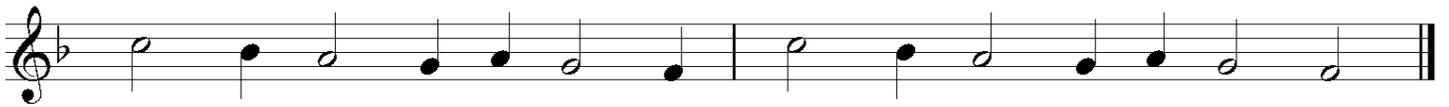
cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



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

Our collective prayer for the day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

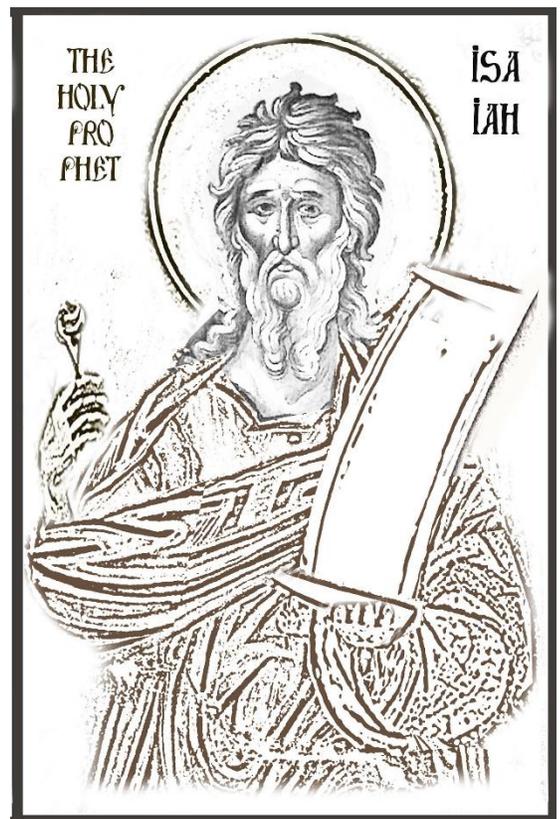
The First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens--
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!



The Psalm

Psalm 116:1-8

Dilexi, quoniam

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

1. I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
2. The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me;
I came to grief and sorrow.
3. Then I called upon the Name of the Lord:
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."
4. Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
5. The Lord watches over the innocent;
I was brought very low, and he helped me.
6. Turn again to your rest, O my soul,
for the Lord has treated you well.
7. For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
8. I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Sung together

Officiant and People



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:



As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

The Second Lesson

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thank be to God!

The Gospel Lesson

Mark 8:27-38

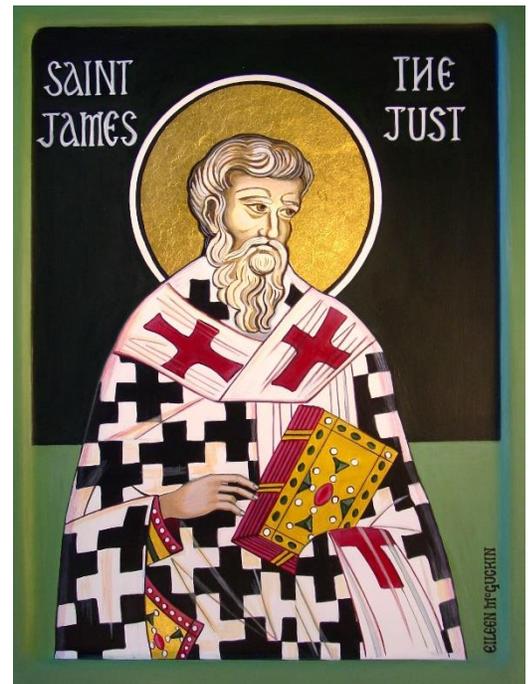
Please stand for the Gospel Lesson

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”



He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?"



Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

the Rev. Deacon Paul Barker

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, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work, especially Samantha Kinney and Will Czarnik who celebrate birthdays this week;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For Joe, our President, Jim and Ralph, our Governors, and Ron and Donnie, our mayors. For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Mike, our Bishop, and Chad, our priest,
and all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. For those on our
prayer list and all those we now name before you either silently or aloud...

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We will exalt you, O God
our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Mr. Clyde Dent, that they may have
a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

A period of silence is kept for reflection.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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*

Doxology

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. Amen.

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

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

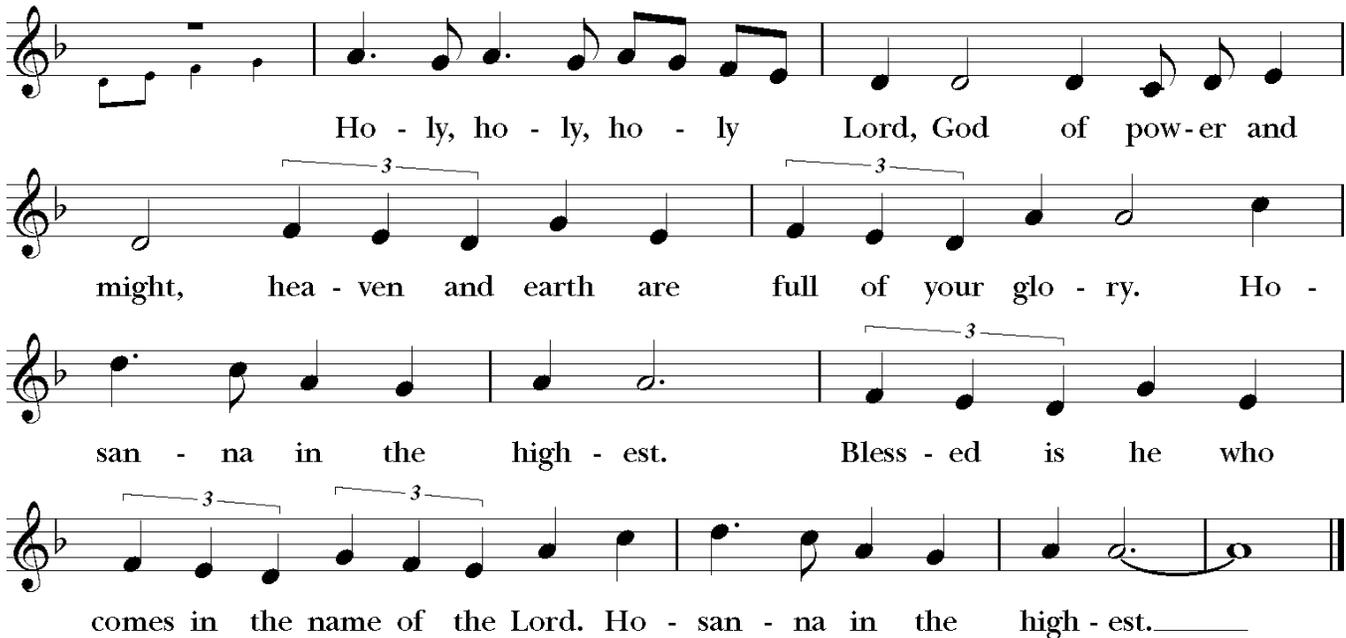
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

The Celebrant and People together sing



A - men.



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 and says

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.



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

May you long for and deeply desire to be a disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May you deny yourself for the sake of the Gospel.

May you take up your own cross and follow the Savior where he leads you, for the pathways of our God always lead to eternal life.

May you loose your life in love and service and thereby find your soul.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.

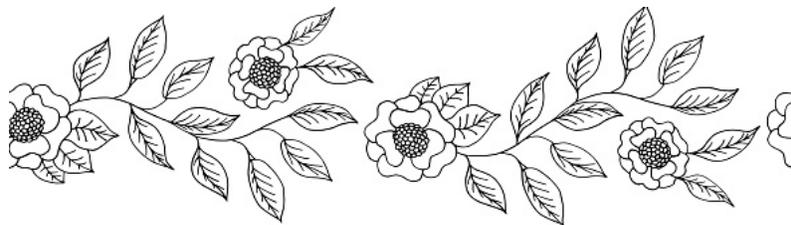
People Amen!

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 for the greater Glory of God and in memory of Mr. Clyde Dent by Ted and Katherine Lewis.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Celebrant</u>	the Very Rev. Chad Slater
<u>Deacon</u>	the Rev. Deacon Paul Barker
<u>Organist & Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolyte</u>	Benjamin Slater
<u>Lector</u>	Delia Kersey
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Elizabeth Clement, Teresa Paine, Linda Ammar

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, Lynn Burney, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Mabeline Robinson, Donna Fortune, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Dean Farmer, Haddon Lazenby, Jack Burchette, Nick, JL, Randy Snider, Margarette Joplin, David, Martin, Harry, Ben Rose, Jack, Sheri, Dan, Kensley, John, Elizabeth Kane, Betty, Matt, Eric, Carol, Dave, Gail, Jean, all Healthcare Personnel and Frontline Workers, the people of Haiti, the people of Afghanistan, and John

Attendance Last Sunday:

27

Birthdays This Week: Samantha Kinney and Will Czarnik

Calendar of Events

Wednesday – September 8	Serving Dinner at Union Mission 3:00 pm
Sunday – September 12	Bagging Groceries after Church
Wednesday – September 15	Vestry Meeting 7:00pm
Thursday – September 16	Food Pantry 9:00am – 11:00am
Wednesday – September 22	Serving Dinner at Union Mission 4:00 pm
Sunday – October 24	CEC Building 100 th Anniversary

Announcements:

Bishop Candidates Virtual Interviews: To watch the virtual interviews with the three candidates to be the next Bishop of West Virginia please go to www.wvbishopsearch.org. Links to the videos are located on the page. Our delegates for the electing convention are Jim and Susanne Pulse (Fr. Chad also has a separate vote as a member of the clergy in the Diocese). Please keep them all in your prayers as they discern God's will for the Diocese. You can also contact them with your thoughts and impressions on the candidates.

UV Light Air Sanitizers Donated to Christ Church: A generous donation by an anonymous member of the Christ Church congregation has enabled us to purchase hospital grade air sanitizers for the nave and sanctuary. These sanitizers use HEPA filters and UV light to trap and kill bacteria and viruses. The particular model purchased was designed for use in medical facilities and the UV light component has been shown to kill the COVID-19 and other viruses. Similar air sanitizers were recently required for use in all public-school classrooms in the United Kingdom. These air sanitizers are quiet, efficient, and discrete. They will be placed strategically around the room to help protect all who enter our church for worship. We are thrilled to be able to add this additional layer of protection for our members and guests. If you have any questions about these new air sanitizers, please contact Fr. Chad for more information.

100th Anniversary: Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 24, 2021! We will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our beautiful church building's consecration. Bishop Klusmeyer will be joining us that day to help us celebrate! A larger “homecoming” and celebration will be scheduled at a later date (post-pandemic).

ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE

We will be collecting the Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) coin boxes through September. You can drop your offering in the special collection box located in the Narthex. The children of the parish are voting on which ERD project in the program's *One Thousand Days of Love Campaign* to contribute the money to. These programs are geared toward children and maternal health in developing countries. Your contributions will go to a good cause and help teach our children the value in giving and ministry. Thank you for your support!



Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

the Very Rev. Chad Slater

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mr. David Kersey

Mr. Peter Richardson

Rector

Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden