

The First Lesson

*Ezekiel 17:22-24*

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

The Psalm

**Psalm 92:1-4,11-14**

*Bonum est confiteri*

- 1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
- 2 To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season;
- 3 On the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.
- 4 For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.
- 11 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
- 12 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;
- 13 They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;
- 14 That they may show how upright the Lord is, my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

*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.

Second Lesson

*II Corinthians 5:6-17*

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord - for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the

judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil. Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, 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. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Hymn

*Morning has broken*

**H 8**



Gospel Lesson

*Mark 4:26-34*

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

*Written about 325 AD, this is the ancient statement of our faith*

Prayers of the People VI

BCP 392

*We pray together as the people of God*

Confession & Absolution

BCP 360

*We confess our sins and are reassured of our pardon*

The Peace

*We share the joy of the Good News!*



The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called *the Mass*

Offertory

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee,  
While in essence only One, undivided God we claim Thee;  
Then, adoring, bend the knee and confess the mystery.*

from H 366, v.4

Eucharistic Prayer "A"

BCP 361

*Sanctus*

Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S129

*Memorial Acclamation*

Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S132

*The Lord's Prayer*

Traditional version, found on BCP 364

*Fraction Anthem*

H-S 152

### 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 as the priest comes by. It is the tradition of this parish that 12 to 14 people at a time receive Communion at the altar rail, at which point all are dismissed together to return to their seats, and another group may move forward to the rail. Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

### Communion Hymns

*Strengthen for service, Lord* H 312  
*Father, we thank thee who has planted* H 302  
*Thy Kingdom come, O God* H 613

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 366

Hymn *Glorious things of thee are spoken* H 522

### 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!*

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Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted by Mary Catherine Williams and Sheila Brooks. 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. Please join us.

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The Altar Flowers are given today by  
Don and Becky Kersey, in memory of loved ones.

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### Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolyte Becky Kersey Kipp Cortez  
Lector Bea Paine Don Williams  
Chalicists Don Williams Kipp Cortez  
Altar Guild Patty Richardson Becky Beckett Carol Georgis

### Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene Dimes—Wanda Myers—Bonnie Taylor—Joe Sanders—Marlene—Lee Puckett, Sr.—Phyllis & Nelson Walker—Linda—Valerie Mahood—Sierra—Alex B.—Toni R.—Linda Sydeski—Ragen—Jared Cregger—Kerrigan Farmer—Lindsey Parsley—Mike—Daisy Bowman—Ellie Spencer—Sue Godwin—Mabeline & Elton Robinson—Ann Richardson—John Richardson—Sherry Mitchell—Carrie D.—Dorothy Curry—Lorraine Keffer

Attendance Last Sunday 54

Birthdays This Week: Juliana Paine, Susan Thomas, Becky Kersey, Marc Meachum

### Calendar of Events

Tuesday - June 19 DOK meeting 10:30 am  
Thursday - June 21 Food Pantry 9:00 am – 11:00 am  
Friday - June 22 Cookout with PA work group  
Sunday - June 24 OK Work Group arrives  
Altar Guild meeting after church  
Wednesday - June 27 Dinner at Union Mission 4:30 pm  
ECW Picnic @ home of Patty Richardson 5:30 pm  
Tuesday - July 3 Fr. Chad leaves for General Convention

### Announcements:

Work Groups: Christ Church will be hosting a series of Episcopal youth groups from out of state. These groups will be working on projects at the Bluefield Union Mission and the Five Loaves and Two Fishes Food Pantry in Kimball. You can help assist these young people in their mission is to sign up to help make dinner for them. A simple dinner (pizza, spaghetti, etc) is fine. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please note on the sheet what your group will be making for dinner that day. You are encouraged to share the meal with the groups!

ECW Picnic: All women of the parish are invited to attend the ECW picnic at the home of Patty Richardson, 117 West Cumberland Road, on Wednesday, June 27 at 5:30 pm. Please bring a dish to share!

Usher Training: Anyone interested in serving as an usher is encouraged to talk with David Kersey about training today. "Head Usher David Kersey is compiling a list of persons interested in serving as ushers during regular Sunday service. This ministry is open to women and men. Anyone interested should let our secretary know or email David at [dkersey@brewsternorhous.com](mailto:dkersey@brewsternorhous.com). Usher training will be arranged, after the list is compiled."

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

the Rev. Chad Slater Rector  
Ms. Emma Bennett Parish Administrator  
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr. Organist & Choirmaster  
Mrs. Vanessa Hall Sexton  
Dr. Rob Merritt Senior Warden  
Mrs. Dee Puckett Junior Warden



# Christ Episcopal Church

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## June 17, 2018

### The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*and being the Sunday designated Proper VI of the Church Year*

### Welcome to this Place of Prayer

If you are new or visiting this congregation for the first time we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card (found on the rack in front of you) and place it in the collect plate as it is passed. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today and hope that you will continue your faith journey here.

This bulletin will help guide you through today's service. The abbreviation "H" stands for "Hymnal." This is the larger red book located on the shelf in front of you. That music noted as "H-S" followed by a number is service music, and is found in the very first pages of the Hymnal. "BCP" is our abbreviation for "Book of Common Prayer," which is the smaller red book.

### The Liturgy of the Word

Hymn *The Church's one foundation* H 525

The Service Begins BCP 355

Gloria in Excelsis H-S 280

*The text to this ancient hymn of praise is found in the BCP*

The Collect *Our collective prayer for the day.*

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*