

The First Lesson

*Amos 7:7-15*

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'"

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

The Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

*Benedixisti, Domine*

- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

*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

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the

heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Hymn

*Hail! thou once despised Jesus!*

**H 495**

Gospel Lesson

*Mark 6:14-29*

King Herod heard of Jesus and his disciples, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced,

she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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 Offertory

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*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.*

*From Hymn 380 vs. 3*

The Lord's Prayer

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 General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up ourselves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Hymn *Come, thou fount of every blessing* **H 686**

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 **Rob and Mimi Merritt**. 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  
**the Marra and Fortune families**, in memory of loved ones.

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Participants in Today's Liturgy

Lay Reader Rob Merritt  
Acolyte Chris Justice  
Lector Jay Kephart Bea Paine  
Altar Guild Chris Justice Betty Nash Kathy Burge

Attendance Last Sunday 31

Birthdays This Week: Bill Davis, David Hardin, Don Harris, Caroline Wilkinson, Tripper Thomas, John Beckett, and Phillip Morgan.

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—Sherry Mitchell—Carrie D.—Dorothy Curry—Lorraine Keffer—Sharon Cranfill—Margie Hardin

Calendar of Events

Tuesday – July 17 DOK 10:30am  
Thursday – July 19 Food Pantry 9am  
Thursday - July 26 Cookout at Community Square  
Sunday – July 29 Church Picnic at Lotito Park 10:30am

Announcements:

Community Cookout: Christ Church will be hosting our annual cookout in Chicory Square on Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars! Sign-up sheets for items needed are located in the Narthex.

General Convention: Fr. Chad will be in Austin, TX for the General Convention of the Episcopal Church where he is serving as an elected deputy for West Virginia. If you are in need of clergy for any pastoral urgency between July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 15<sup>th</sup> please contact Fr. Russ Hatfield at: 276-970-0576

Church Picnic: Our annual Church Picnic will take place on Sunday, July 29, at 10:30 am at Lotito Park Shelter No. 1 (the largest shelter near the playground). We will have celebrate Holy Eucharist, share fellowship and food, and finish off the fun with a ride on the Ridge Runner. Fried Chicken will be served for the meal. Please bring a side dish to share! This is always one of our most well attended and most anticipated Sundays of the year. Take the opportunity to invite a friend to church!

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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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## July 15, 2018

### The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

*and being the Sunday designated Proper X 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 *Lift up your heads, ye might gates* **H 436**

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.*

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*