

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?

The Psalm

Psalm 116:1-8

*Dilexi, quoniam*

- 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.

*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

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.

Hymn

*I know not where the road will lead*

**H647**

Gospel Lesson

Mark 8:27-38

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."

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

*Blessed be the Lord*

Purcell

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 Hymn 366 vs. 4

Eucharistic Prayer "B"

BCP 367

*Sanctus* Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S129

*Memorial Acclamation* Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S138

*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

*O saving victim* H 311  
*Day by day dear Lord* H 654  
*Before thy throne, O God, we kneel* H 574

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!*

Following our service today will be Coffee Hour, hosted by **Linda Ammar**. 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.

The Altar Flowers are given today by **Wanda Myers**, with thanksgiving for all the help received from CEC members.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolyte Becky Beckett Macon Clement Will Puckett  
Chalicer Don Williams Jay Kephart  
Lector Jay Kephart David Hardin  
Altar Guild Linda Ammar Mimi Merritt Teresa Paine

Attendance Last Sunday 60

Birthdays This Week: Will Czarnik, Becky Beckett, and Don Kersey

This Month's Plate Offering: United Thank Offering Fund

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene Dimes—Wanda Myers—Bonnie Taylor—Joe Sanders—Marlene—Lee Puckett, Sr.—Phyllis & Nelson Walker—Linda—Sierra—Alex B.—Toni R.—Ragen—Jared Cregger—Kerrigan Farmer—Lindsey Parsley—Daisy Bowman—Ellie Spencer—Sue Godwin—Mabeline & Elton Robinson—Ann Richardson—Sherry Mitchell—Carrie D.—Dorothy Curry—Lorraine Keffer—Sharon Cranfill—Mergie Hardin—George Strike—Levertt T.—Bea Paine—Frankie Sparks—Diane Sudduth

Calendar of Events:

Sunday – September 16 Food Pantry bagging after service  
Tuesday – Sept. 18 DOK 10:30am  
Wednesday-September 19 Vestry 7:00pm  
Thursday-Sept. 20 Food Pantry 9-11am  
Wednesday-Sept. 26 Prepare meal at Union Mission 4:30pm  
Sunday-Sept. 30 Ingathering of UTO

Announcements:

Vestry Meetings: Vestry Meetings have been changed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

Coffee Hour: We will gather for fellowship and the first of our stewardship talks in Rowley Hall immediately following the service.

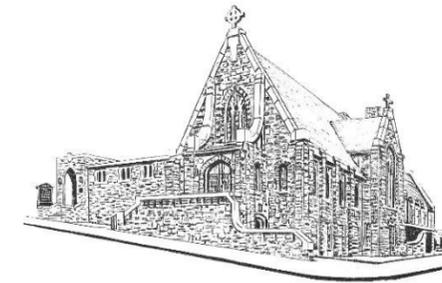
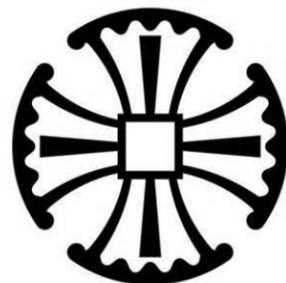
Collecting Toiletries: ECW will be collecting small sized toiletries, (like you'd get from a hotel) for use by the Salvation Army. Please bring these items to the donation basket in the narthex.



Join us Sept, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> for Coffee Hour talks!

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

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701-2910  
(304) 327-6861

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



<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbluefield>

## September 16, 2018 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*and being the Sunday designated Proper XIX 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 spacious firmament on high* H 409

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 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.*