

The First Lesson

*Genesis 1:1-5*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Psalm

Psalm 29

*Afferte Domino*

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

*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

*Acts 19:1-7*

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of

repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—altogether there were about twelve of them.

Hymn

*When Christ's appearing was made known*

**H 132**



Gospel Lesson

*Mark 1:4-11*

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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

Prayers of the People IV

BCP 388

*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!*

Announcement of the Holy Days of 2018

*In the ancient past, when calendars were not common, the dates for the major festivals of the church would be announced on Epiphany, or the first Sunday thereafter, for the faithful to anticipate. Until the Reformation, this would have been the only part of any service heard in the vernacular (the local language) instead of Latin.*

The Blessing of Chalk

*Chalk is used in the ancient tradition of blessing our homes at Epiphany. The chalk we bless here today will be distributed for each family to bless their homes with.*

V. Our help is the name of the Lord:

R. The maker of heaven and earth.

V. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:

R. From this time forth for evermore.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray.

Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name all who use it in faith to write upon the doors of their homes the petition of your blessing, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit their home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called the Mass

Offertory

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

Smith

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

<u>Eucharistic Prayer "A"</u>		<b>BCP 361</b>
<i>Sanctus</i>	Words in BCP, Musical Setting	H-S129
<i>Memorial Acclamation</i>	Words in BCP, Musical Setting	H-S132
<i>The Lord's Prayer</i>	Traditional version, found on	BCP 364
<i>Fraction Anthem</i>		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

<i>O saving Victim</i>	H 311
<i>Christ, when for us you were baptized</i>	H 121
<i>Baptized in water</i>	H 294

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 365

Hymn *On Jordan's bank, the baptist's cry* H 76

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 today by Betty Nash and Charles Blevins. 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 Mrs. Norma Mahood-Bay and her family in memory of Dr. John Mahood.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Acolyte</u>	Elizabeth Burton	Becky Kersey
<u>Chalicer</u>	Becky Kersey	Becky Beckett
<u>Lector</u>	David Kersey	Becky Kersey
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Elizabeth Sudduth	Kay Sudduth
	Betty Nash	

Attendance Last Sunday 28

Birthdays This Week: Adam Lowe, Linda Thomas, Mark Williams, Teresa Paine.

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene—Wanda—Bonnie—Joe—Marlene—Lee—Phyllis—Nelson—Linda—Valerie—Edi—Sierra—Alex—Toni—Linda—Dawson family—Joan

Calendar of Events

Sunday – January 7 ECW meeting after Coffee Hour  
 Canterbury Club 6pm at the home of Carl and Linda Thomas

Wednesday – January 10 ECM Meeting 6pm  
 Vestry 7pm

Sunday – January 14 Altar Guild Meeting after church  
 Bagging groceries for Food Pantry after church

Tuesday – January 16 DOK Meeting 10:30am

Thursday – January 18 Food Pantry

Wednesday - January 24 Dinner at Union Mission

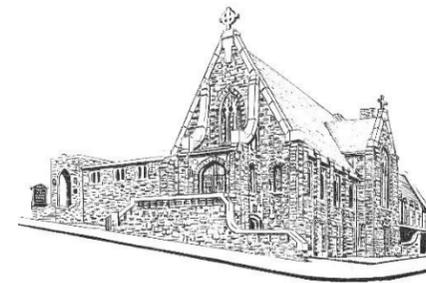
Tuesday – February 13 ECM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30 -7:00 pm

Announcements:

ECW: will meet in Conference Room today after Coffee Hour.  
Canterbury Club: Carl & Linda Thomas will host this month's Canterbury Club at their home this evening at 6:00pm. Bring a dish to share and enjoy an evening of fellowship!  
ECM Pancake Supper: If you haven't already gotten your tickets please see one of the ECM members. The Pancake Supper is Tuesday, February 13 at 6:00pm  
Chili Cook-Off for the Union Mission: We will be supplying chili for the evening meeting at the Union Mission on Wednesday, January 24. See Linda Ammar if you are able to contribute a crockpot full of your favorite recipe! Workers at the Union Mission will vote for their favorite. The winner will receive a special prize and bragging rights for the next year!  
Coffee Hour: Volunteers are needed! Please look over the calendar and sign up to host Coffee Hour.

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



# Christ Episcopal Church

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January 7, 2018

**First Sunday after the Epiphany**

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 *Brightest and best of the stars of the morning* H 117

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.*

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*