

The First Lesson

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"?

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Psalm Psalm 147:1-12, 21c *Laudate Dominum*

- 1 Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.
- 21 Hallelujah!

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 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Hymn *O bless the Lord, my soul* **H 411**

Gospel Lesson Mark 1:29-39

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would

not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Sermon

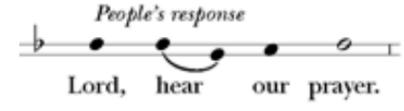
Prayers of the People IV BCP 388
We pray together as the people of God

The Rite of Holy Baptism

The Presentation & Examination BCP 301
The candidate for Holy Baptism is presented with her parents and godparents

The Baptismal Covenant BCP 304
The faith and expectation of a Christian are affirmed

Prayers for the Candidate BCP 305



The Amen after the Collect is monotoned.

Hymn *I want to walk as a child of the Light* **H 490**

The Thanksgiving Over the Water BCP 306

The Baptism BCP 307
After being baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the priest will say:

Let us welcome the newly baptized.
People We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The newly baptized is then presented to the congregation, who welcome the child with applause and joy!

The Peace *We share the joy of the Good News!*

The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called the Mass

Offertory *Deep River* Burleigh

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*To God the Father, heavenly Light,
To Christ, revealed in earthly night,
To God the Holy Ghost we raise
Our equal and unceasing praise.*

From Hymn 124 vs. 5

<u>Eucharistic Prayer "A"</u>	BCP 361
<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>Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old</i>	H 567
<i>O for a closer walk with God</i>	H 683

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 365

The Blessing *The Priest blesses the people.*

Hymn *Songs of thankfulness and praise* H 135

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!*

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolyte: John Allen – Macon Clement
 Chalice: Don Williams – Becky Kersey
 Lector: David Kersey – Don Williams
 Cantor/Soloist: John Moir
 Altar Guild: Elizabeth Sudduth - Betty Nash - Kay Sudduth

Attendance Last Sunday 41

The Altar Flowers are given today by Mrs. Denise Melvin in memory of her loved ones.

Birthdays This Week: James Patrick Paine and Nathaniel Taylor



Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by the Parish Life Committee. 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!

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—Edi—Sierra—Alex B.—Toni R.—Linda Sydeski—Joan—Ragen—Nancy—Marion Lowe—Jared Cregger—Peyton Cline and family

Calendar of Events

Tuesday – February 6 Vestry 7:00pm
 Sunday – February 11 Service with St. Mary's at CEC
 Tuesday – February 13 ECM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30 -7:00 pm
 Wednesday – February 14 Ash Wed. at St. Mary's 6:00pm
 Thursday – February 15 Food Pantry
 Wednesday – February 21 Lenten Dinner 6:00pm Carry in

Announcements:

Congratulations: We welcome to the Christian faith Ms. Brooklyn Maya Mowery. Brooklyn is the daughter of Nathan and Jenna (Taylor) Mowery and granddaughter of Peter and Patricia Taylor.

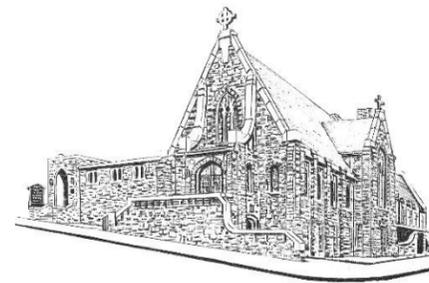
Thank You: We are grateful to Dr. Kipp Cortez for providing our music this morning!

Lenten Dinner: This year's theme will be on Christian spirituality and mindfulness, led by Dr. Assaad Mounzer. Dinner will be carry in or catered as announced. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring a friend!

ECM Pancake Supper: If you haven't already gotten your tickets please see one of the ECM members. The Pancake Supper is Tuesday, February 13th 5:30 to 7:00pm.

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



https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbluefield



February 4, 2018

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Being the Sunday sometimes called Sexagesima

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 for the Sacrament of Baptism

Hymn *Immortal, invisible, God only wise* H 423

The Service Begins BCP 299

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.*

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*