

The First Lesson

Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.



The Psalm

Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

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 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Hymn *O Love that casts out fear*

H 700

Gospel Lesson

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."



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

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Harrison

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

All praise, O risen Lord, we give to thee, who, dead, again dost live; to God the Father equal praise, and God the Holy Ghost, we raise.

from H 193, v. 5

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

Bread of the world, in mercy broken H 301
Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove H 512
Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life H 487

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 366

Hymn *Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy* H 482

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 will be Coffee Hour, hosted by David Hardin and Terry Whittington. 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 Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr., in memory of his parents, Terry E., Sr. and Thelma Kelly Whittington.

Birthdays This Week: Ramona Parks, Patty Richardson, Pat Wimmer, Chris Justice, Joyce Morgan

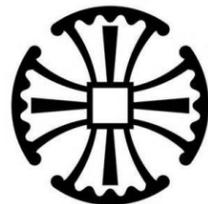
Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolyte Chris Justice Rob Merritt
Lectors Bernadette Dragotto Rob Merritt
Chalicists Rob Merritt Kipp Cortez
Altar Guild Delia Kersey Linda Thomas

Attendance Last Sunday 44

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—Gary Slater—Kennedy Quillen—Mabeline Robinson



Calendar of Events

Wednesday – May 9 ECM Dinner 6:00pm
Vestry Meeting 7:00pm
Church Work Day 9:00am
Postal Service Food Drive
Saturday – May 12 Mother's Day
Food Pantry bagging after church
Sunday – May 13 DOK meeting 10:30
Tuesday – May 15 Food Pantry 9-11:00am
Thursday – May 17 Pentecost Sunday
Sunday – May 20 Trinity Sunday with Baptisms
Sunday – May 27



Announcements:

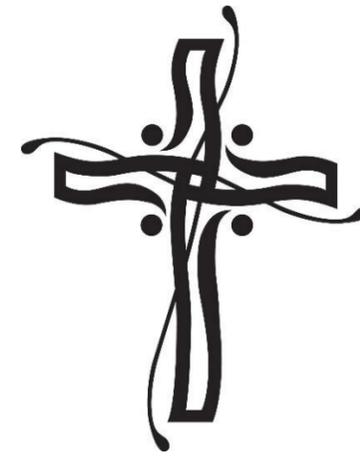
Personal Hygiene Basket: Please feel free to add personal hygiene items in the basket that's been provided for you in the narthex.

Church Work Days: Help us clean and fix minor repairs here on the first two Saturday's in May. Let Dee Puckett or Fr. Chad know of a project or special need you have in mind. Lunch will be provided.

Postal Service Food Drive: Don't forget to leave nonperishable food items out for your mail carrier to collect on Saturday, May 12. Our Food Pantry is one of the recipients of the donated food in the Bluefield area. Volunteers will be needed to help pick up food at the post office that evening.

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>

May 6, 2018

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 *We plow the fields, and scatter* H 291

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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*