

Christ Episcopal Church

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org



February 9, 2020

The Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany

Sometimes called Septuagesima Sunday

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

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

H 7

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.

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.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am”.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Psalm

Psalm 112:1-10

Beatus vir

- 1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

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 2:1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what

human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God

Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

H 488

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

First composed in 325, this is the ancient statement of faith

The Prayers of the People (Form IV)

BCP 388

We pray together as the people of God

The Confession and 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

O Jesu, King Most Wonderful

Tye

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

Eucharistic Prayer “C”

BCP 369

Sanctus

Words in BCP, Musical Setting is H-S129

The Lord’s Prayer

Traditional version, found on BCP 364

Fraction Anthem

Words in BCP, Musical Setting is 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

God be in my head

H 694

I come with joy to meet my Lord

H 304

Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 366

Hymn

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

H 535

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!*

The Altar Flowers are given today by
Kathy Burge in memory of loved ones.

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Becky Steorts. 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!

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolyte

Will Puckett

Lectors

David Kersey

Alyson Bowling

Chalicians

Will Puckett

Altar Guild

Elizabeth Sudduth

Sandy Moir

Betty Nash

Nursery Help

Vestry Member of the Month

Birthdays This Week: Nathaniel Taylor, Lucy McCue Dancer, Jim Justice

Last Sunday's Attendance

35

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Lee Puckett, Sr., Mabeline & Elton Robinson, Bea Paine, Lynn Burney, Marilyn Denney, Donna Fortune, Bob and Peggy Walk, Susan Jewell, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Kelly Cox, Mike McLeod, Maxine Stevenson, Dean Farmer, Bob Moore, Haddon Lazenby, Miffi Williams, Jack Burchette, Nick, JL, Victor Bowman, Cis Barrett

Calendar of Events

Sunday – February 9

Canterbury Club at the Moir's 6:00pm

Wednesday – February 12

Serve Dinner at Union Mission 3:00pm

Sunday – February 16

Bagging Groceries after Church

Tuesday – February 18

DOK meeting 10:30am

Wednesday – February 19

Vestry Meeting 7:00pm

Thursday – February 20

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am

Tuesday – February 25

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 5:30pm

Wednesday – February 26

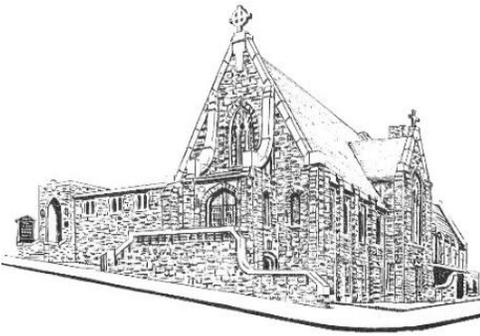
Ash Wednesday Services 8am, 12 noon, 7:00pm

Union Mission 4:30pm

Announcements:

Canterbury Club: Our next Canterbury Club will be hosted by the Moir Family at their home (604 Mountain View Ave, Blfd. WV) tonight at 6pm. There is a 2020 sign-up sheet in the narthex for Canterbury Club. Anyone that would like to host one you can sign up. Thank you to everyone who hosted a Canterbury Club in 2019!

Nursery Help: Please consider signing up to assist with our Sunday morning nursery. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. For more information please see Fr. Chad or Elizabeth Clement.



Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

the Rev. Chad Slater

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mrs. Susan Jewell

Mrs. Becky Beckett

Mr. Tom Coughlan

Rector

Parish Administrator
Organist & Choirmaster

Sexton

Nursery Attendant

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



welcomes you