

The First Lesson

*Genesis 15:1-12,17-18*

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The Psalm

Psalm 27

*Dominus illuminatio*

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?  
2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.  
3 Though an army should encamp against me, yet my heart shall not be afraid;  
4 And though war should rise up against me, yet will I put my trust in him.  
5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;  
6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.  
8 Even now he lifts up my head above my enemies round about me.  
9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; I will sing and make music to the Lord.  
10 Harken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.  
11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." Your face, Lord, will I seek.  
12 Hide not your face from me, nor turn away your servant in displeasure.  
13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.  
14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will sustain me.  
15 Show me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.  
16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.  
17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!  
18 O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord.

*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

*Philippians 3:17-4:1*

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Hymn

*Lord Christ, when first thou cam'st to earth*

**H 598**

Gospel Lesson

*Luke 13:31-35*

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"



The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 327

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

Prayers of the People

BCP 328

*We pray together as the people of God*

Confession & Absolution

BCP 331

*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 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face Dearle

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold Name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord*

*from H 143, v. 5*

Eucharistic Prayer "I" BCP 333  
 -Sanctus Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S 113  
 -The Lord's Prayer Traditional version, found on BCP 336  
 -Agnus Dei H-S 157  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.*  
 -The Prayer of Humble Access BCP 337

The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

All baptized Christians, of any tradition, are welcome to receive the sacrament. 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  
*O love, how deep, how broad, how high* H 448  
*Pass me not, O gentle Savior*

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 339

Hymn *Lord, who throughout these forty days* H 142

The Dismissal

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.  
 People: *Thanks be to God.*

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by John and Carol Georgis. 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!

Last Sunday Attendance 50

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolytes Becky Beckett Macon Clement  
Lectors Bill Denney Teresa Paine  
Chalicists Becky Beckett Teresa Paine  
Altar Guild Patty Richardson, Carol Georgis, Becky Beckett, Stacy Thomas

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene Dimes, Wanda Myers, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Marlene, Lee Puckett, Sr., Alex B., Toni R., Jared Cregger, Kerrigan Farmer, Lindsey Parsley, Daisy Bowman, Ellie

Spencer, Mabeline & Elton Robinson, Ann Richardson, Sherry Mitchell, Carrie D., Sharon Cranfill, George Strike, Levertt T., Bea Paine, Frankie Sparks, Audrey, Denny Arner, Charlotte Woolwine, Lynn Burney, Elizabeth Kane, Marilyn Denney, Judy Anderson, Debbie Wells, Paul Anderson, Ruby, Debbie & Jerry, Ed Arnett, Michelle Parks, Debbie Faber, Ray Ratliff, Shirley Weaver, Will Calfee, Doug Bloomfield

Calendar of Events

Sunday – March 17 Food Pantry bagging after church  
 Tuesday – March 19 DOK meeting 10:30am  
 Wednesday – March 20 Men's Dinner 6pm  
 Vestry Meeting 7pm  
 Thursday – 21 Food Pantry 9-11am  
 Wednesday – 27 Union Mission Dinner Preparation 4:30pm  
 Fellowship Outing 5:30pm

Announcements:

Building and Grounds Committee: If you are interested in the care and preservation of our beautiful property please consider volunteering for this important committee. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.

Lent Madness!: Are you ready to have so much fun in Lent you should feel bad about it? Learn about the saints and the whims of a popularity contest as we vote for our favorites until only one is left. Who will win the Golden Halo this year? Pick up your materials in the Narthex!

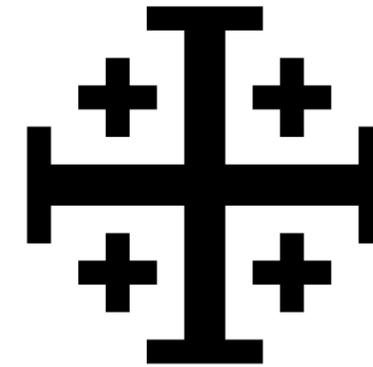
Food Pantry: The Food Pantry will be collecting socks for our friends in need this month. Donations of socks may be made in the basket located in the narthex

Prayer List: The prayer list will be reset on the first Sunday of April. All names you would like to remain on the prayer list should be resubmitted to the church office.

Fellowship Outing: Please join us as we gather for an evening of fellowship in the private room (upstairs) of Portabella's Restaurant in downtown Bluefield on Wednesday, March 27, at 5:30 pm. We will order from the menu for this "dutch treat" outing. Friends are, as always, welcomed and encouraged.

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  
 Mrs. Becky Beckett Senior Warden  
 Mr. Tom Coughlan Junior Warden



**Christ  
 Episcopal  
 Church**

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



www.christchurchbluefield.org

https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbluefield

**March 17, 2019  
 The Second Sunday in Lent**

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.

About our worship in Lent: During this holy season we will make use of some of the more traditional practices of the church. This will include the use of Rite I—the Elizabethan liturgy—and the reorientation of our space, *ad orientem*—where both the clergy and the congregation face the same direction during worship. It is our hope that this change will allow us to reflect on our own preferences and meaning behind them.

The Liturgy of the Word

Hymn *Hail, thou once despised Jesus!* H 495

The Service Begins BCP 323

*The Trisagion* (words are in the BCP, musical setting is H-S 102)

The Collect *Our collective prayer for the day.*

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*