

Christ Episcopal Church

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

www.christchurchbluefield.org



November 17, 2019

The 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

being Proper XXVIII of the Church Year

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 *Thou, whose almighty word* **H 371**

The Service Begins **BCP 355**

Gloria in Excelsis **S 280**
The text to this ancient hymn of praise is found in the BCP

The Collect *Our collective prayer for the day.*

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord--and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-- its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

Ecce Deus

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is

known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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.

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

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Hymn

"Thy kingdom come!" on bended knee

H 615

Gospel Lesson

Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

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!



Offertory

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creature here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

From Hymn 380 vs. 3

The Lord's Prayer

Traditional version

BCP 364

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Hymn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

H 7

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 Dr. Teresa Paine
in memory of loved ones.

Birthdays This Week: Debbie Faber, Jaret Taylor, Linda Ammar, Bill Denney

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Mary Catherine Williams and Sheila Brooks. 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, Lee Puckett, Sr., Kerrigan Farmer, Mabeline & Elton Robinson, Bea Paine, Charlotte Woolwine, Lynn Burney, Marilyn Denney, Michelle Parks, Shirley Weaver, Will Calfee, Doug Bloomfield, Paul Anderson, Deane Family, Donna Fortune, Deanna Edwards, Elizabeth Kane, Jerry and Debbie, Nina and family, Marlene, Amy Melvin, Bob and Peggy Walk, Susan Jewell, John Kersey, Judy Anderson, Michelle Coleman, Hilendorf Family, Martha Linkous, Hazel Railey.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Lay Reader

Bill Denney

Acolyte

John Allen

Lectors Don Williams

Becky Beckett

Altar Guild Linda Thomas

Sandy Moir

Nursery Help Elizabeth Clement

Vestry Member of the Month: Delia Kersey

Calendar of Events

Sunday – November 17

Bagging Groceries after church

Tuesday – November 19

DOK meeting 10:30am

Wednesday – November 20

ECM Dinner 6:00pm

Vestry 7:00pm

Thursday – November 21

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am

Saturday – November 23

Bluefield College Choir 5:00pm



Announcements:

Nursery Help: Please consider signing up to assist with our Sunday morning nursery. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Sign-ups are now open for the remainder of this calendar year! For more information please see Fr. Chad or Elizabeth Clement.

Coffee Hour: If you are interested in this very important ministry at Christ Church, please call the office at 304-327-6861 or Email Emma Bennett at secretary@cecblf.org.

Stickers and Decals: There are bumper stickers and window decals on the usher's table for anyone who would like them.

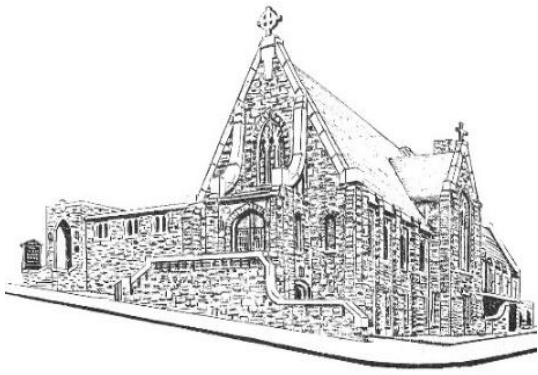
Loose Offering: Any loose offering collected in November will go to the Boys Home of Covington VA.

Food Pantry Items Needed: Handout lists are available in Narthex for Food Pantry items being collected during the months of November thru January. We will accept monetary contributions also. See Patty Richardson or Mary Catherine Williams if you have any questions.

2019 Stewardship Program: This year's theme is "Shining Our Light". Each week we will have a written reflection included with your bulletin and a special presentation on how we "Shine our light" here at Chris Church from one of our members. Estimates of Gifts and Tithes cards will be collected in the month of November. Cards may be brought forward when you come to Communion and placed in the basket.



SHINING OUR LIGHT



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