

The First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The Psalm

Psalm 84

Quam dilecta!

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

- 6 They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- [9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!]

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

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Hymn

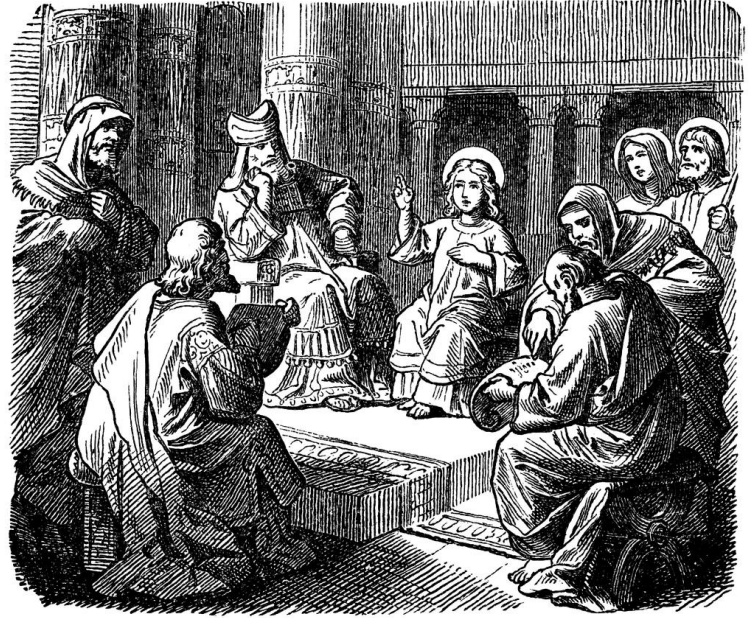
Angels from the realms of glory

H 93

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:41-52

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they



started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People (Form III)

We pray together as the people of God

BCP 387

Confession & Absolution

We confess our sins and are reassured of our pardon

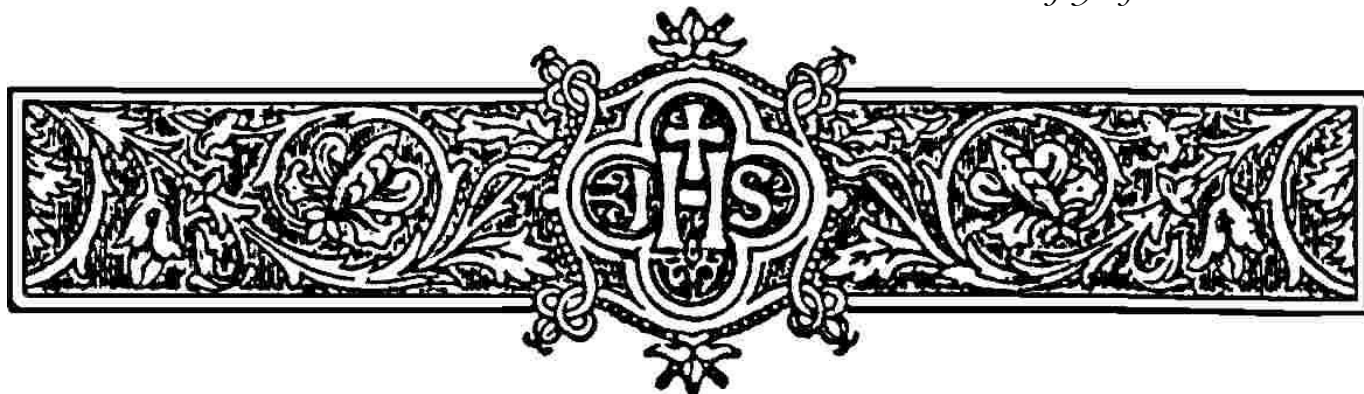
BCP 360

Announcement of the Holy Days of 2018

In the ancient past, when calendars were not common, the dates for the major festivals of the church would be announced on Epiphany, or the Sunday closest, for the faithful to anticipate. Until the Reformation, this would have been the only part of any service heard in the vernacular (the local language) instead of Latin.

The Peace

We share the joy of the Good News!



The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called *the Mass*

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

From Hymn 380 vs. 3

Eucharistic Prayer "A"

BCP 361

Sanctus

Words in BCP, Musical Setting

H-S 129

The Lord's Prayer

Traditional version, found on BCP 364

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 Hymn

Bread of the world, in mercy broken

H 301

Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 366

The Blessing of Chalk

Chalk is used in the ancient tradition of blessing our homes at Epiphany. The chalk we bless here today will be distributed for each family to bless their homes with.

V. Our help is the name of the Lord:

R. The maker of heaven and earth.

V. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:

R. From this time forth for evermore.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray.

Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name all who use it in faith to write upon the doors of their homes the petition of your blessing, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit their home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The priest pronounces a blessing over the people.

Hymn

The first Nowell the angel did say

H 109

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 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!

Sunday – January 19

Altar Guild Meeting following Coffee Hour

Wednesday – January 22

Dinner at the Union Mission 4:30pm

Announcements:

Canterbury Club: Canterbury Club will meet tonight at the home of Linda Thomas at 6pm. Bring a side dish and your favorite beverage.

Loose Offering: Any loose offering collected in January will go toward the Heating & Cooling Project.

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.

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

The Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting of Christ Episcopal Church will be held on January 12, 2020. This will allow us to present full year 2019 accounting figures to everyone.

Altar Guild Meeting: There will be an altar guild meeting on Sunday, January 19th, following coffee hour.

Coffee Hour: If you'd like to provide the refreshments for this very important ministry at Christ Church, please call the office at 304-327-6861

Canterbury Club: There is a 2020 sign-up sheet in the narthex for Canterbury Club. Anyone that would like to host one you can sign up. Thanks to everyone who hosted a Canterbury Club in 2019!



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. Susan Jewell

Nursery Attendant

Mrs. Becky Beckett

Senior Warden

Mr. Tom Coughlan

Junior Warden