

# Christ Episcopal Church

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

[www.christchurchbluefield.org](http://www.christchurchbluefield.org)



March 8, 2020

## 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 "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 *Forty days and forty nights* **H 150**

A Penitential Order **BCP 351**

Trisagion **S 102**

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us*

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 your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## The First Lesson

*Genesis 12:1-4a*

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

## The Psalm

Psalm 121

*Levavi oculos*

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

*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

*Romans 4:1-5, 13-17*

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null

and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Hymn

*Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

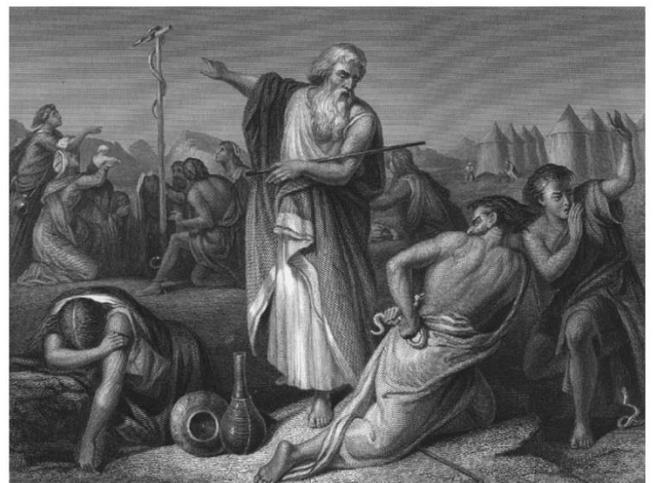
**H 440**

Gospel Lesson

*John 3:1-17*

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.



And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

### The Sermon

#### The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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

#### The Prayers of the People (Form V)

BCP 389

*We pray together as the people of God*

#### The Peace

*We share the joy of the Good News!*

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

#### Offertory

*Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake*

Farrant

#### 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 “B”

BCP 367

#### Sanctus

Words in BCP, Musical Setting

S 129

#### Memorial Acclamation

S 138

#### The Lord’s Prayer

Traditional version, found on BCP 364

#### Agnus Dei

S 164

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.*

## The Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

*This prayer was written for the original English Book of Common Prayer in 1549. The words come from various sources, including Biblical references, the ancient Liturgy of St. Basil, and the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas. While not typically a part of the Rite II Eucharistic service, we will use this beautiful prayer during the Lenten season.*

*The Celebrant and Congregation together say:*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

## 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

<i>O saving Victim, open wide</i>	<b>H 311</b>
<i>Let thy Blood in mercy poured</i>	<b>H 313</b>
<i>If thou but trust in God to guide thee</i>	<b>H 635</b>

## Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 365

### Hymn

*My faith looks up to thee*

**H 691**

## 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 Patty Richardson and Linda Marie Gaines. 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**

<u>Acolyte</u>	Macon Clement		Teresa Paine
<u>Lectors</u>	Linda Ammar		Teresa Paine
<u>Chalicists</u>	Teresa Paine		
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Becky Beckett	Patty Richardson	Staci Thomas
<u>Nursery Help</u>	_____		

Vestry Member of the Month: Elizabeth Clement

**Birthdays This Week:** Aaron Ingram, Diane Sudduth, Jessica Cole, Elizabeth Richardson, Peter Taylor

**Last Sunday's Attendance**

**62**

**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, Cis Barrett, Linda Jones, the Riddle Family

**Calendar of Events**

Sunday – March 8	Parish Life Committee meeting after Church
Wednesday – March 11	Union Mission 3:00pm
	Lenten Service-1928 BCP 7:00pm
Sunday – March 15	Bagging Groceries after Church
Tuesday – March 17	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – March 18	Men's Dinner 6:00pm
Thursday – March 19	Food Pantry 9:00am – 11:00am
Monday – March 23	Building and Grounds Committee meeting in the Library 5:00pm
Wednesday – March 25	Union Mission 4:30pm

## **Announcements:**

**Parish Life Committee meeting:** There will be a Parish Life Committee meeting today after Church for anyone interested in helping with events which take place within the church. Please make every effort to attend...lots going on! If you cannot attend, please let Linda Ammar know that you are interested in helping.

**Outreach Committee Meeting:** There will be a meeting of those parishioners interested in serving on the Outreach committee immediately following the grocery bagging after church on March 15. See you there! Don Kersey

**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.

**Lenten Wednesday Series:** Join us Wednesday evenings in Lent for a variety of worship opportunities. These worship experiences include an instructed eucharist, a service from the 1928 BCP and more. Services will begin at 7:00pm each Wednesday and will be followed by a simple Fellowship hour. A full schedule will be published next week!

**Christian Education Committee:** The meeting of the Christian Education Committee has been rescheduled for Thursday, March 19th at 4:30. We will meet in the church library. All are welcome to attend! Thank you! Elizabeth Clement

**The Building and Grounds committee:** The Building and Grounds committee will have a meeting on March 23 at 5pm in the library. If you are interested in this very important ministry for our church, consider being a part of it. If you have a chance, feel free to walk through the church inside and outside to see anything that you think needs our attention. Please email our Junior Warden, Tom Coughlan, at [trapper\\_1948@yahoo.com](mailto:trapper_1948@yahoo.com) if you would like to be on this committee or you see things that need attention.

**Church Directory to be Published:** The 2020 edition of the Christ Church Directory will be published the week of March 23. Directory information is posted on the bulletin board by the Coffee Area. Please take a moment to make sure your information is correct. Thank you!

**Story Making. Service Giving.  
Life Changing.**

# TEEN MISSION WEEK IN MCDOWELL COUNTY

**June 28-July 3**

**Lead by Parr and Mother Susan Claytor, who  
have years of mission experience.  
Rising 6th through 12th graders.**

**[www.highlandeducationalproject.org](http://www.highlandeducationalproject.org)**

Visit the website's volunteer link  
for details and registration form.



## 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