



Christ Episcopal Church

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org



March 15, 2020

The Third 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 *Come, thou fount of every blessing* **H 686**

A Penitential Order **BCP 351**

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures forever.

Then, all kneeling as they are able, the Decalogue on page 350 will be said, with the response: Amen. Lord have mercy after each Commandment.

After which, the Confession and Absolution on page 352 will be said, where we acknowledge our sins and are assured of our pardon. Then shall be sung:

The Trisagion **S-102**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

The Collect

Our collective prayer for the day.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

The Psalm

Psalm 95

Venite, exultemus

- 1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

- 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, "This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."
- 11 So I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter into my rest."

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 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Hymn

O love that casts out fear

H 700

Gospel Lesson

John 4:5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

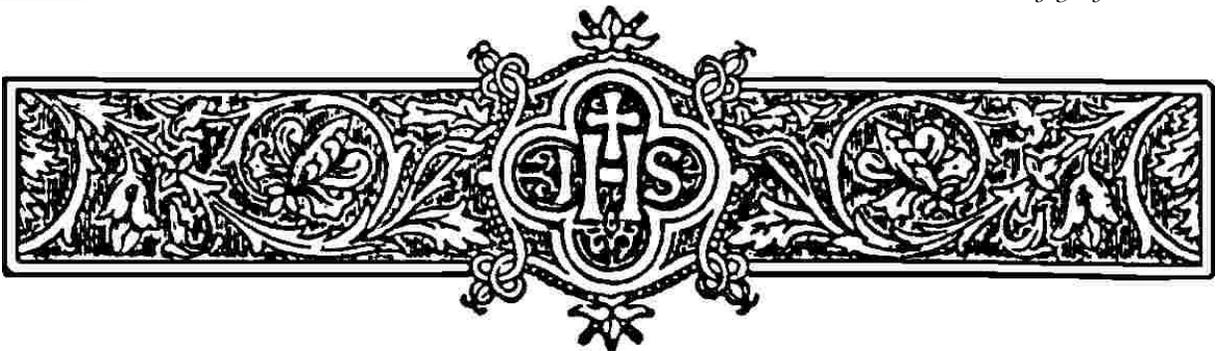
Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed *First composed in 325, this is the ancient statement of faith* BCP 358

The Prayers of the People (Form V) *We pray together as the people of God* BCP 389

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* Pearle

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

<u>Eucharistic Prayer “B”</u>	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

O saving Victim, open wide H 311

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless H 343

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound H 671

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 365

Hymn *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* H 690

The Dismissal

We are dismissed from this gathering to go into the world and spread the Good News of God’s love! We respond to this instruction with: *Thanks be to God!*

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Linda Ammar. 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>	Rob Merritt	John Allen	
<u>Lectors</u>	Mike Lilly	Rob Merritt	
<u>Chalicians</u>	Rob Merritt	Bill Denney	
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Becky Beckett	Patty Richardson	Staci Thomas
<u>Nursery Help</u>	_____		

Vestry Member of the Month: Elizabeth Clement

Birthdays This Week: Paul Broyles, III Frankie Wilkinson Walt Sowers

Last Sunday's Attendance **45**

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 15	Bagging Groceries after Church
Tuesday – March 17	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – March 18	Fr. Chad at Lenten Lunch 1st Presbyterian 11:45am
	Celtic Holy Eucharist 7:00pm
Thursday – March 19	Food Pantry 9:00am – 11:00am
	Christian Education Meeting 4:30pm
Sunday – March 22	Vestry Meeting after Church
Monday – March 23	Building and Grounds Committee meeting in the Library 5:00pm
Wednesday – March 25	Union Mission 4:30pm
	Anglo-Catholic Mass 7:00pm

Announcements:

Easter Lilies: A sign-up sheet for those who would like to purchase Easter lilies is available at the Usher's Table in the Narthex. Lilies will be \$15 each and may be given in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please turn in payment by April 12th and be sure to note method of payment on sheet.

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!

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 for more information.

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!

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

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