



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

O God, our help in ages past

H680

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn of Praise

How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!

H533

The Collect for the Day

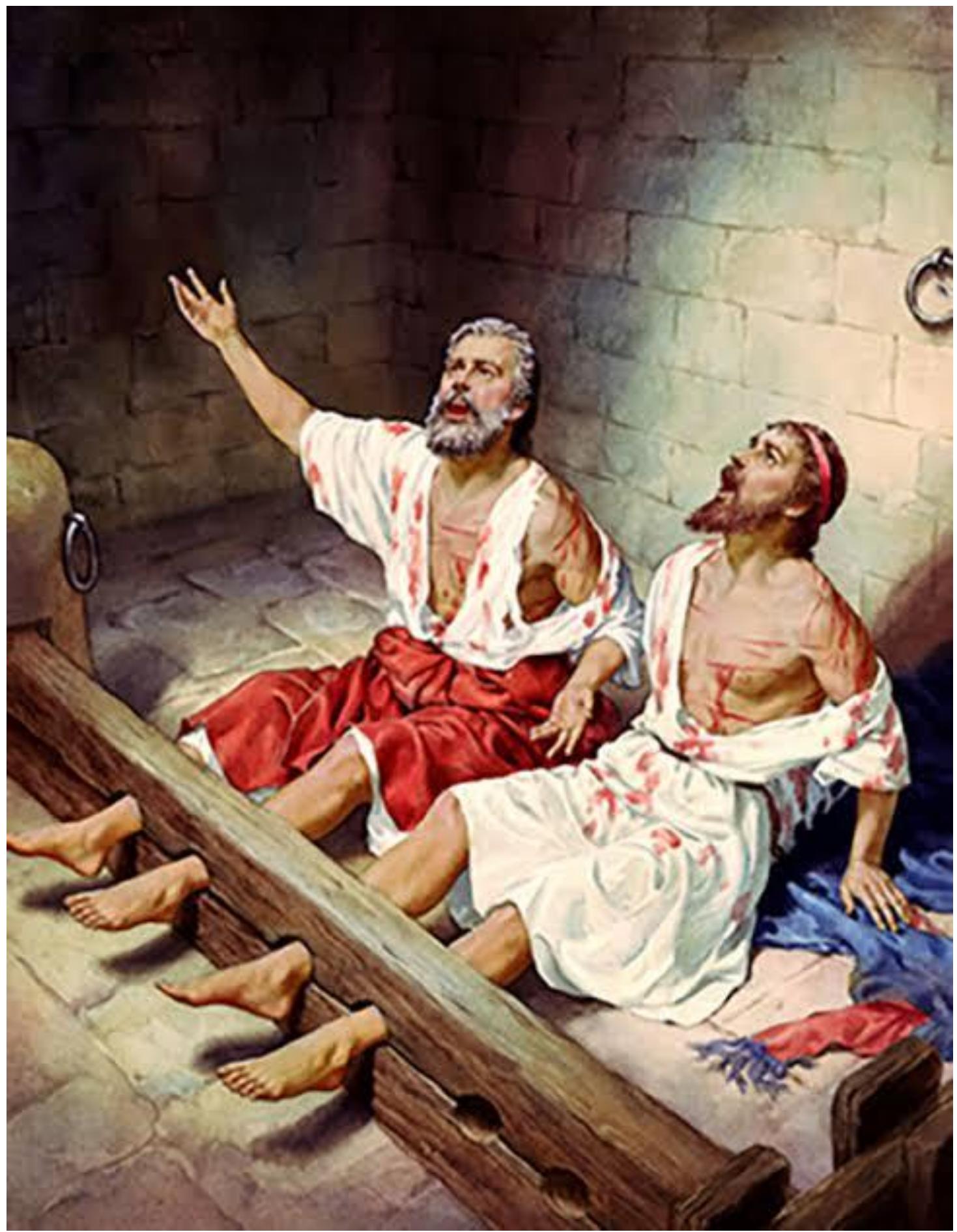
O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen..*

The First Lesson

Acts 16:16-34

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortunetelling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined



in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."

The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.



Lector
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thank be to God!

The Psalm

Psalm 97

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

Dominus regnavit

1. The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.
2. Clouds and darkness are round about him, righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
3. A fire goes before him and burns up his enemies on every side.
4. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees it and is afraid.
5. The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
6. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.
7. Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before him, all you gods.
8. Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD.
9. For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
10. The LORD loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
11. Light has sprung up for the righteous, and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
12. Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to his holy Name.

The Second Lesson

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17,20-21

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words:

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
And let everyone who hears say, "Come."
And let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen.
Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thank be to God!

Sequence Hymn

O for a thousand tongues to sing

H493

The Gospel Lesson

John 17:20-26

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Lou Hays



The Nicene Creed

All stand as they are able

We believe in one God,

 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

 he came down from heaven:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

 he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A Litany For Healing

God of peace, we remember all those who have died in recent incidents of mass shootings. We remember particularly the 22 lives lost at Robb Elementary School in Texas, the ten lives lost at the grocery store in Buffalo, and all too many recent mass shootings. We also remember this Memorial Day weekend all who have laid down their lives in service to our nation so that we might be free.

Give to the departed eternal rest

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

For all victims of violence.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

For the families and loved ones of the victims of the shootings.

Grant them comfort and healing.

People: Hear us, Lord.

For those first responders and all who care for the victims.

Protect and strengthen them.

People: Hear us, Lord.

For teachers and school personnel who live in fear that they and their students might become victims.

Protect and strengthen them.

People: Hear us, Lord.

For all whose lives have been darkened by mass shootings.

Protect and strengthen them.

People: Hear us, Lord.

For the children of our community, that we might love, cherish and protect them, and for all the children of our world.

Protect and strengthen them.

People: Hear us, Lord.

For those who suffer from mental illness and particularly those who do not receive the treatment and resources they need.

Heal them and show them your love.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Holy God, your beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to entrust the children killed in the Texas school shootings and their two teachers to your never failing lovingkindness. We grieve the loss of all of these precious human lives. Give your grace to those who grieve in Texas and beyond, that they may find comfort in your presence and be strengthened by your Spirit. Be with all those who mourn, and draw them together in your healing love; in the name of the one who suffered, died, and rose for us, Jesus our Savior. *Amen.*

Let us join together in the Prayer for the Transition

Dear God, we ask for mercy and grace in this journey. We commit to the process of finding a new rector for our parish, and that it will be in your name and to your glory. We ask for insight and self-reflection, that we may know our needs and properly envision a future together, uplifting all and seeing the incredible ministries that you will share with us. We pray for the members of the Search Committee, the Vestry, and our Interim Rector, as well as our bishops and their staff, that all may be blessed and guided in this search process. Open our eyes and our hearts to all possibilities and lead us with your wisdom. May your glory shine through us in this mission we are undertaking. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

The Confession of Sin may be omitted during the Season of Easter

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory

After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand and sing to the familiar tune of the “Old 100th”

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.

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

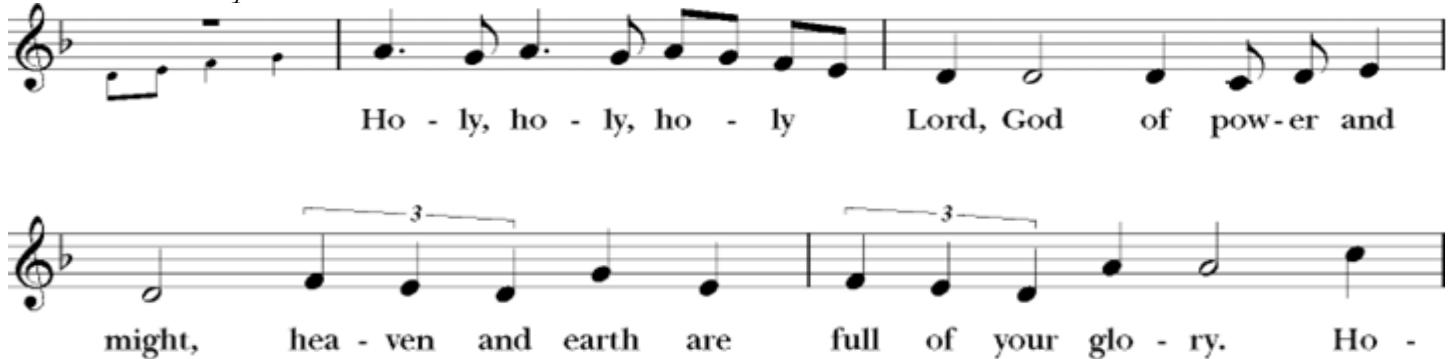
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

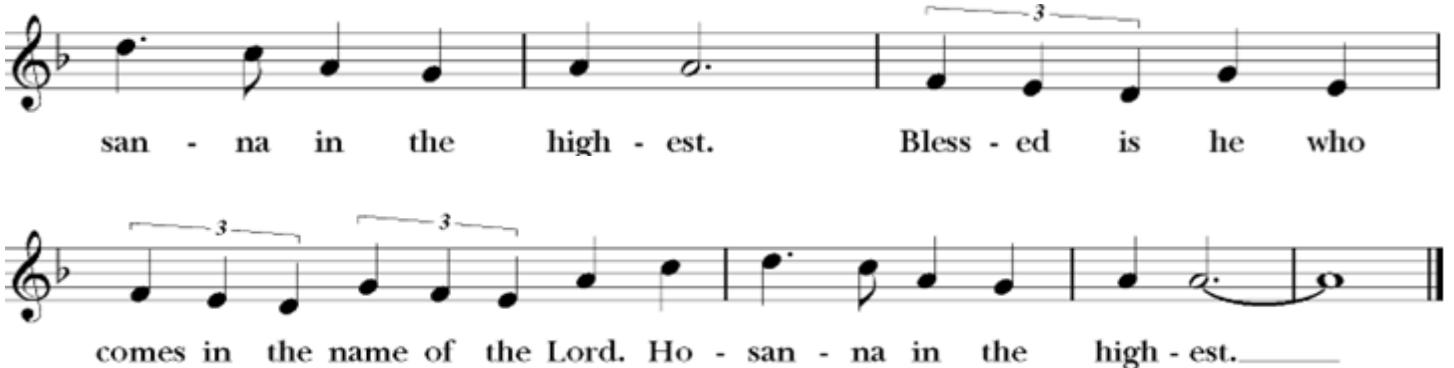
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



The people remain standing as able in solidarity with the risen Christ

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy Name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.



The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People

The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited and encouraged to receive the sacrament. Everyone, regardless of faith, is welcome to receive a blessing—simply cross your arms in front of you approach the priest. Each row, beginning in the front, should come up to the chancel step to receive the Blessed Bread. The Chalice cannot be offered at this time by direction of the Bishop of West Virginia. Once the priest has dropped the Blessed Bread in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has been Communed, the next is free to come to the chancel steps. Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

Communion Hymns

How bright appears the Morning Star

H497

Our Prayer after Communion

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Easter Season Blessing

The Celebrant then pronounces the following blessing over the people

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through
the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of God's
blessing. Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into
newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.
Amen.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting
freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

People Amen!

Recessional Hymn

Christ is the world's true Light

H542

The Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Attendance Last Sunday:

20

Birthdays This Week: Patricia Meachum.



Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today
by Tim and Maggie Mainland.

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, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, Bob and Peggy Walk,
John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Donna
Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Christ Justice,
Brian, Lane, Loraine, and Sherry.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev. Lou Hays

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolyte

Becky Beckett

Lector

Don Williams

Altar Guild

Betty Nash and Grey Kiser



The Altar Flowers are given today
for the greater Glory of God
by Jim and Susanne Pulse



Calendar of Events

Wednesday – June 8	Serving Dinner at the Union Mission 4:00pm
Sunday – June 12	Bagging Groceries after Church
Wednesday – June 15	Vestry meeting 6:00pm
Thursday – June 16	Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am
Tuesday – June 21	DOK meeting 10:00am
Wednesday – June 22	Serving Dinner at the Union Mission 3:30pm

Announcements:

Wade Center School Supplies Project: Daughters of the King will be undertaking a community project of collecting school supplies for The Wade Center until the end of August (and maybe longer). A plastic tub is in the Narthex for your donated supplies. If you wish to make a monetary contribution you may send cash or make your check out to Christ Church and note in the memo “school supplies”. Please contact Mary Catherine Williams or Becky Beckett.

Coffee Hour: If you haven’t signed up for coffee hour, consider doing so. We currently need hosts for June 12 and 26. The sign-up board is outside the library. The church provides coffee, cups, and plates. For more information, speak with Mary Catherine Williams.

Parish Dinner: We will have a Parish Carry In dinner Tuesday, June 21st for the adult mission team from St. Paul’s Episcopal Church from Mt. Lebanon, PA. Time to be announced.

Gardens Sign-up: If you would like to help with planting and maintaining the flowers in the Columbarium and out in front of the Church, please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Lou Hays	Interim Rector
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.	Organist & Choirmaster
Ms. Emma Bennett	Parish Administrator
Mrs. Vanessa Hall	Sexton
Mr. David Kersey	Senior Warden
Mr. Peter Richardson	Junior Warden