

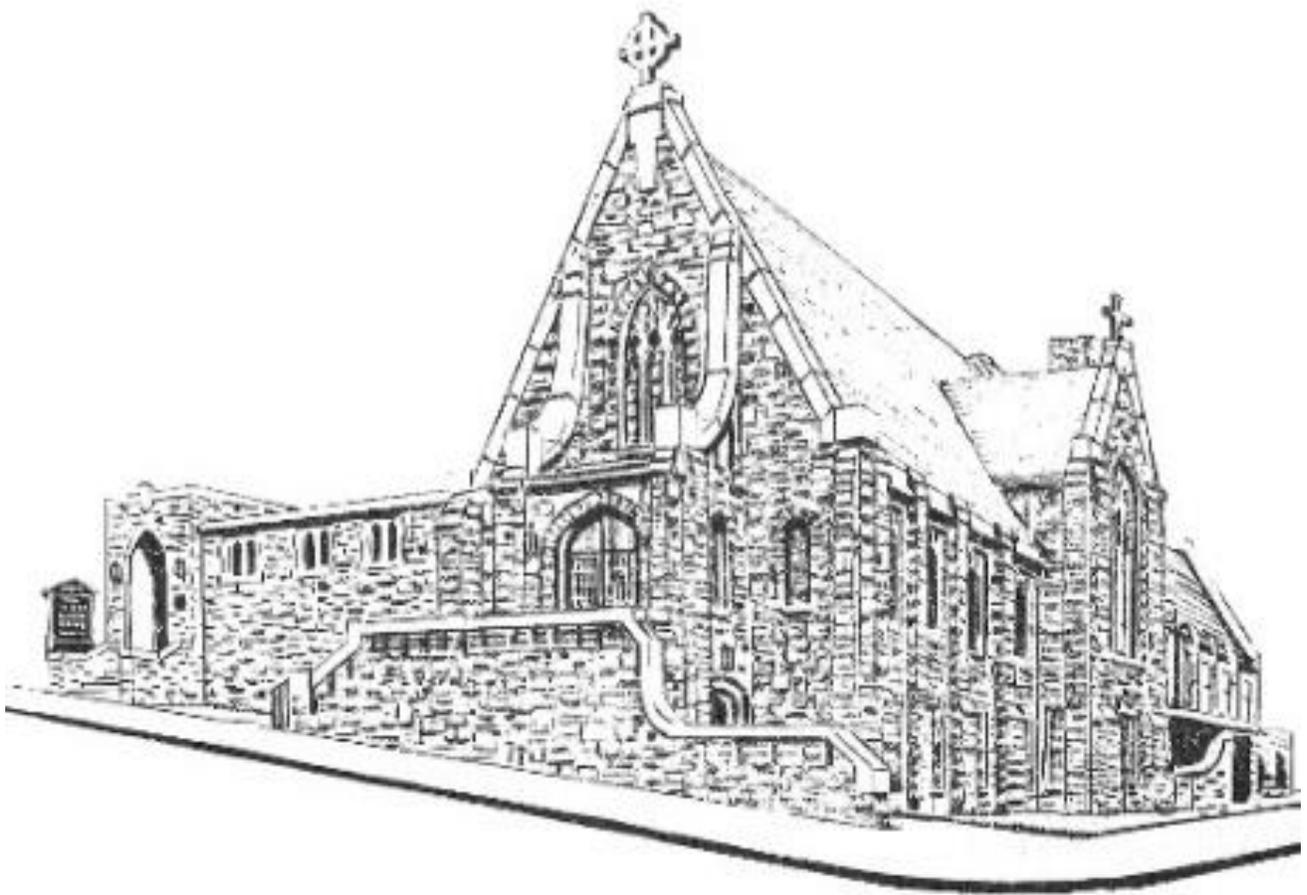


CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2022



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

Rejoice! rejoice, believers

H68

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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.*

The Hymn of Praise

The Gloria is then sung, all standing

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,
 you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most
 High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect for the Day

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me.



New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation--I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.

When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 50:1-8, 23-24

Deus deorum

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

1. The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
2. Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory.
3. Our God will come and will not keep silence; before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.
4. He calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of his people.
5. "Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."
6. Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; for God himself is judge.
7. Hear, O my people, and I will speak: "O Israel, I will bear witness against you; for I am God, your God.
8. I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; your offerings are always before me.
23. Consider this well, you who forget God, lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.
24. Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God."

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old--and Sarah herself was barren--because he

considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore, from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove

H510

Gospel Lesson

Luke 12:32-40

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near, and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

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.

The Prayers of the People, Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Mike and Matthew, our Bishops, for Lou our priest, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

In our Diocesan Cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Thomas a' Becket,
Morgantown.

In our Anglican Cycle of prayer, we pray for The Provinces of the West
Indies.

We pray for all who are on our parish prayer list, and for any others that we
might now name, either silently or aloud

Pause

We pray for all who have died, especially our loved ones who have gone before us, and for any others that we might now name, either silently or aloud

Pause

We give thanks for all of the blessings of this life, for our family, friends and loved ones, and for any other thanksgivings we might now name, either silently or aloud.

Pause

Let us join together in our Prayer for this stage of the Transition.

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks and praise for bringing us this far in our transition journey. We thank you for our parish profile and our hopes and dreams for the future. We pray that you will bring us candidates who you would have serve as our next Rector. Continue to bless the Search Committee and lead them to right decisions and give us patience and hope as we wait. In Jesus' name we pray, *Amen*.

Celebrant

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord *Amen*.

The Confession and Absolution

The Celebrant then calls the people to confess their sins to God

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

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 people remain standing

Celebrant 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

The people stand or kneel. 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. *AMEN.*

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 Hymn

Lo! what a cloud of witnesses

H545

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 Blessing

Recessional Hymn

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord

H637

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

❧—————❧

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Jim and Chris Justice. 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 Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Chris Justice, John Beckett, Brian, Lane, Loraine, Sherry, Lilian Blackman, Scot, and Max.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Celebrant</u>	The Rev. Lou Hays
<u>Organist & Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolyte</u>	Becky Kersey
<u>Lector</u>	Teresa Paine
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Becky Beckett, Chris Justice, Patty Richardson, Mimi Merritt

❧—————❧

The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God
by David Hardin.

❧—————❧

Birthdays This Week: Mike Hunter, Stan Kiser, Theodore Lewis, Alyson Bowling, and Emma Bennett.

Attendance Last Sunday:

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Calendar of Events

Wednesday – August 10	Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
Tuesday – August 16	DOK meeting 10:30am
Thursday – August 18	Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am
Sunday – August 28	Annual Church Picnic immediately after Church

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 notate in the memo “school supplies”. Please contact Mary Catherine Williams or Becky Beckett.

Coffee Hour: We need hosts for August 14 and 21. If you haven’t signed up for coffee hour, consider doing so. The sign-up board is outside the library. The church provides coffee, cups, and plates. For more information, speak with Linda Ammar or Mary Catherine Williams.

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.

Annual Parish Picnic: Our Annual Parish Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 28th. Note the time change of our church service will be at 10:30 that morning. The carry-in picnic style lunch will be held at Shelter #1 of the Bluefield City Park, immediately following the service. For those of you who have not attended this event, (casual dress) David Hardin will provide chicken, and the church will provide sweet and unsweetened tea, lemonade, and ice. Just bring your favorite side dish or dessert and come ready to eat. Once everyone has eaten to their heart’s content, it has been the tradition to board the Ridge Runner Train for a trip around the park. See you there!

Honey in the Narthex: Would anyone know what the two jars of honey in the narthex are for? Please contact Mary Catherine Williams or the office if you do.

Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Lou Hays

Interim Rector

Ms. Emma Bennett

Parish Administrator

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Organist & Choirmaster

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Sexton

Mr. David Kersey

Senior Warden

Mr. Peter Richardson

Junior Warden