

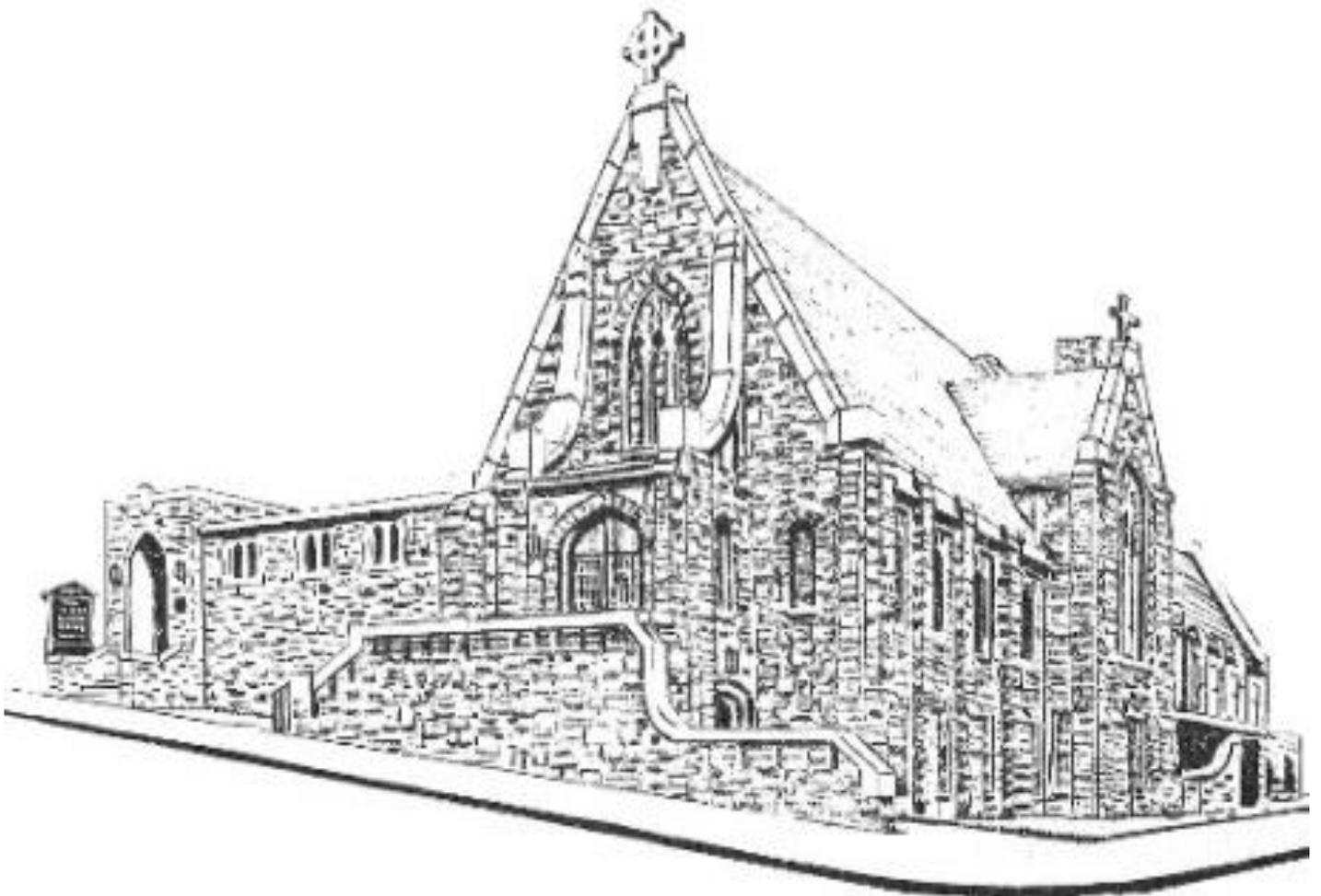


# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

**H390**

*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 us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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

*Jeremiah 8:18-9:1*

My joy is gone, grief is upon me,  
 my heart is sick.

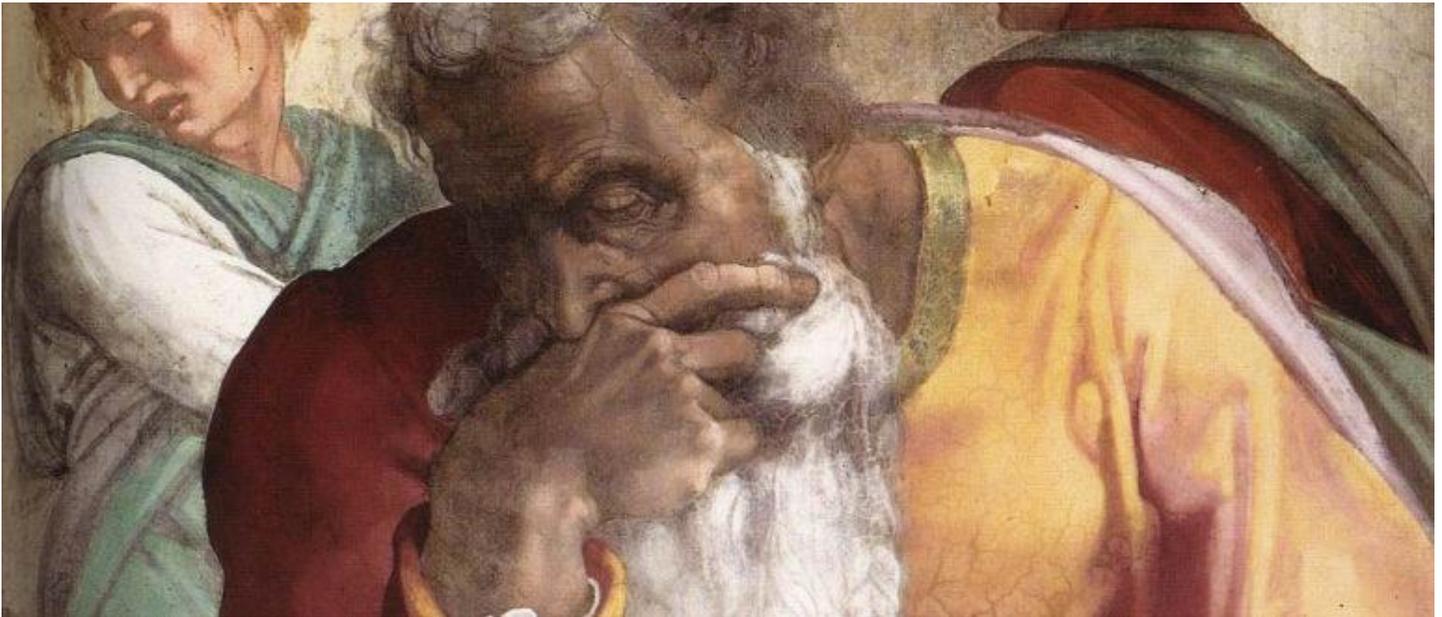
Hark, the cry of my poor people  
 from far and wide in the land:

"Is the Lord not in Zion?

Is her King not in her?"

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended,  
 and we are not saved."

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt,  
 I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.



Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people  
not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water,  
and my eyes a fountain of tears,  
so that I might weep day and night  
for the slain of my poor people!

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### The Psalm

Psalm 79:1-9

*Deus, venerunt*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. O God, the heathen have come into your inheritance; they have profaned your holy temple; they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.
2. They have given the bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the air, and the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the field.
3. They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.
4. We have become a reproach to our neighbors, an object of scorn and derision to those around us.
5. How long will you be angry, O Lord? will your fury blaze like fire for ever?

6. Pour out your wrath upon the heathen who have not known you and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your Name.
7. For they have devoured Jacob and made his dwelling a ruin.
8. Remember not our past sins; let your compassion be swift to meet us; for we have been brought very low.
9. Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your Name; deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your Name's sake.

The Second Lesson

*I Timothy 2:1-7*

First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

who gave himself a ransom for all

-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Hymn

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart*

**H 488**

Gospel Lesson

*Luke 6:1-3*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So, he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough



to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended

the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ

*People*

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 Grace Church, Middleway and  
St. Bartholomew's, Leetown.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do  
Brasil.

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 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 you 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 100<sup>th</sup>"*

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 A

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant says*

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 own 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:

*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 -  
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 remain standing as able in solidarity with the risen Christ*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

*Celebrant and People*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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

*Savior, again to thy dear Name we raise*

**H345**

### 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

*Holy Father, great Creator*

**H368**

## **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

## **Postlude**

### **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, Patty, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Lilian Blackman, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, and Joan.

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Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by the Lewis Family. 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!

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### **Participants in Today's Liturgy**

<u>Celebrant</u>	The Rev. Lou Hays
<u>Acolyte</u>	Katherine Lewis
<u>Lector</u>	David Kersey
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Mimi Merritt, Teresa Paine, Betty Nash

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The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God  
by Frank and Bernadette Dragotto.

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**Birthdays This Week:** Becky Beckett, Don Kersey, Jr., Lynn King, Norma Mahood-Bay.

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

27

## **Calendar of Events**

Tuesday – September 20                      DOK meeting is CANCELLED this month

Wednesday – September 28                      Union Mission 3:30pm

## **Announcements:**

**Coffee Hour:** Please help us continue this important ministry of hospitality by signing up on the white board in the hallway next to the library.

**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.

**Food Pantry Collection:** Our Food Pantry has a tradition of giving hats, scarves, gloves, socks, and blankets to help make winter a little warmer for our friends. A collection bin is in the narthex to begin accepting donations for these items. They can be homemade, purchased, or gently used.

**Winter Pansies:** If you'd like to donate toward having winter pansies planted in the Columbarium, please note "Pansies" in the memo section of your gift.

**UTO:** UTO collection is here. The ingathering will be at the Diocesan Convention Nov. 18-19<sup>th</sup>. There is material on the railing in the narthex. There will be a UTO collection jar on the usher's table each Sunday for any loose change you might have.

**Recycling Program:** Christ Church will be starting a recycling program soon. We need volunteers to take the items to a recycling truck at Mitchell Stadium every Thursday from 1-4 pm. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be in the narthex. Thanks for all who volunteer for this program.

## **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