



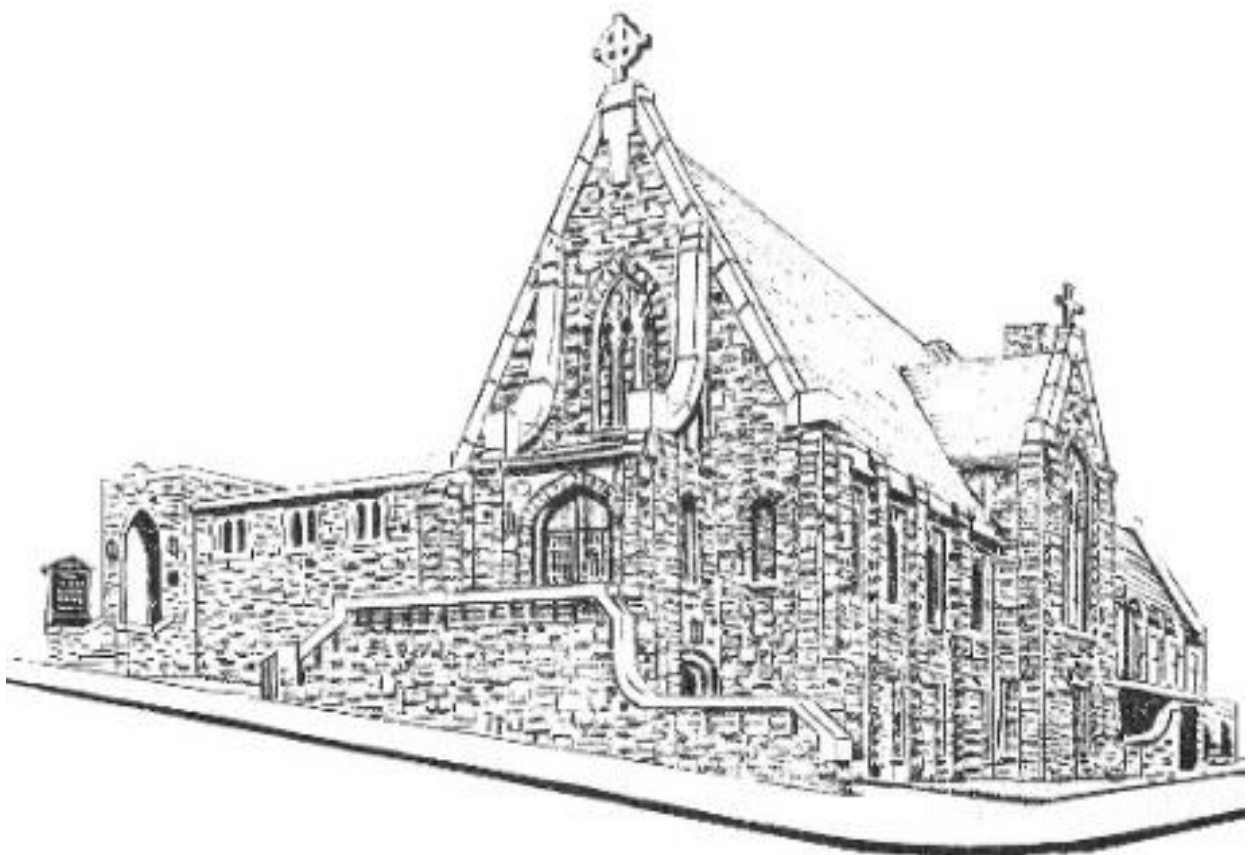
# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 13, 2022



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

### The Processional Hymn

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

**H 7**

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

### The Collect for Purity

*Officiant*

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 - mighty 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.

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

### The Collect for the Day

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson

*Isaiah 65:17-25*

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD--and their descendants as well.



Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-- its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

Thanks be to God.

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
2. With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.
3. The LORD has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
4. He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
5. Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
6. Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
7. With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
8. Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.
9. Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he comes to judge the earth.
10. In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

The Second Lesson

*II Thessalonians 3:6-13*

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

*Luke 21:5-19*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

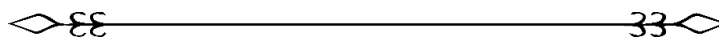
"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Sermon

By the Rev. Lou Hays, read by David Kersey



## 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 VI**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;

*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Matthew, our Bishop; for Lou our priest; and for all bishops and other ministers;

*For all who serve God in God's Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, for all who are on our parish prayer list, and any others we might now name

*The Celebrant and people may add their own petitions, silently or aloud*

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Candidates for Holy Orders in the Diocese

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church in Hong Kong

Hear us, Lord;

*For your mercy is great.*



We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*The Celebrant and people may add their own thanksgivings, silently or aloud*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*The Celebrant and people add their own petitions, silently or aloud*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

*Who put their trust in you.*

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.*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Leader and People*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The officiant says*

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

### **The Peace**

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

### **Announcements**

#### **Recessional Hymn**

*Jerusalem, my happy home*

**H620**

### **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### **Postlude**

◇ ੴ ————— 33 ◇

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!

◇ ੴ ————— 33 ◇

**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, John Beckett, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Lilian Blackman, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, and Pam Spracher.

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

Officiant

David Kersey

Organist

Terry Whittington

Acolyte

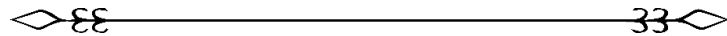
Becky Beckett

Lector

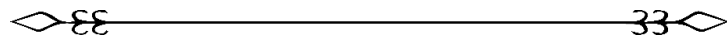
Ted Lewis

Altar Guild

Betty Nash, Linda Thomas



The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God  
by Dr. Teresa Paine.



**Birthdays This Week:** Rob Merritt, Art Mead, Debbie Faber, and Jaret Taylor.

**Calendar of Events**

Tuesday – November 15	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – November 16	Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
Thursday – November 17	Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am
Wednesday – November 23	Union Mission 3:30pm
Saturday – December 3	Bluefield University - <i>Christmas at Bluefield</i> 7:30pm

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Acolytes and Lectors needed:** If you would like to participate in this valuable ministry, please contact Rob Merritt, 304-920-860; [robmerritt202@gmail.com](mailto:robmerritt202@gmail.com)

Good News: The Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of the Virginias has authorized a grant to Christ Episcopal Church for the enhancement project for Christ Church Food Pantry. The paperwork for this grant has been completed and returned to the Foundation. We now are waiting for the funds so we can proceed with the project. Thanks to Art Mead in helping to get the grant application done for this project.

Support the HEP Christmas Project: The Highland Educational Project is sponsoring a major outreach project to help children and seniors in need in McDowell County. You may help this worthy cause by writing a check to Christ Church and putting "HEP Christmas Project" in the memo line.

Thank you for pledging! Thanks to all who have pledged for the coming year. Your pledge will help secure and advance the mission and ministries of Christ Church. If you haven't already pledged, please do so as soon as possible. All pledges received to date will be blessed at the altar this morning.

Altar Guild Flower Donation List: We are in the process of updating our list of people who donate flowers on Sunday mornings, so if you want to continue giving flowers, you do not need to do anything. However, if you **(1)** have moved and wish to have your name removed from the list or **(2)** if you are new and would like to begin giving flowers, please send an email to:

Linda Ammar: [lwammar1@gmail.com](mailto:lwammar1@gmail.com) or Chris Justice: [cjbasket@aol.com](mailto:cjbasket@aol.com)

Bluefield University Presents: Bluefield University's Department of Music & Theatre will present "*Christmas at Bluefield*" on Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 7:30pm in the Harman Chapel Auditorium. This is a FREE admission event and reception to follow.

### **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