

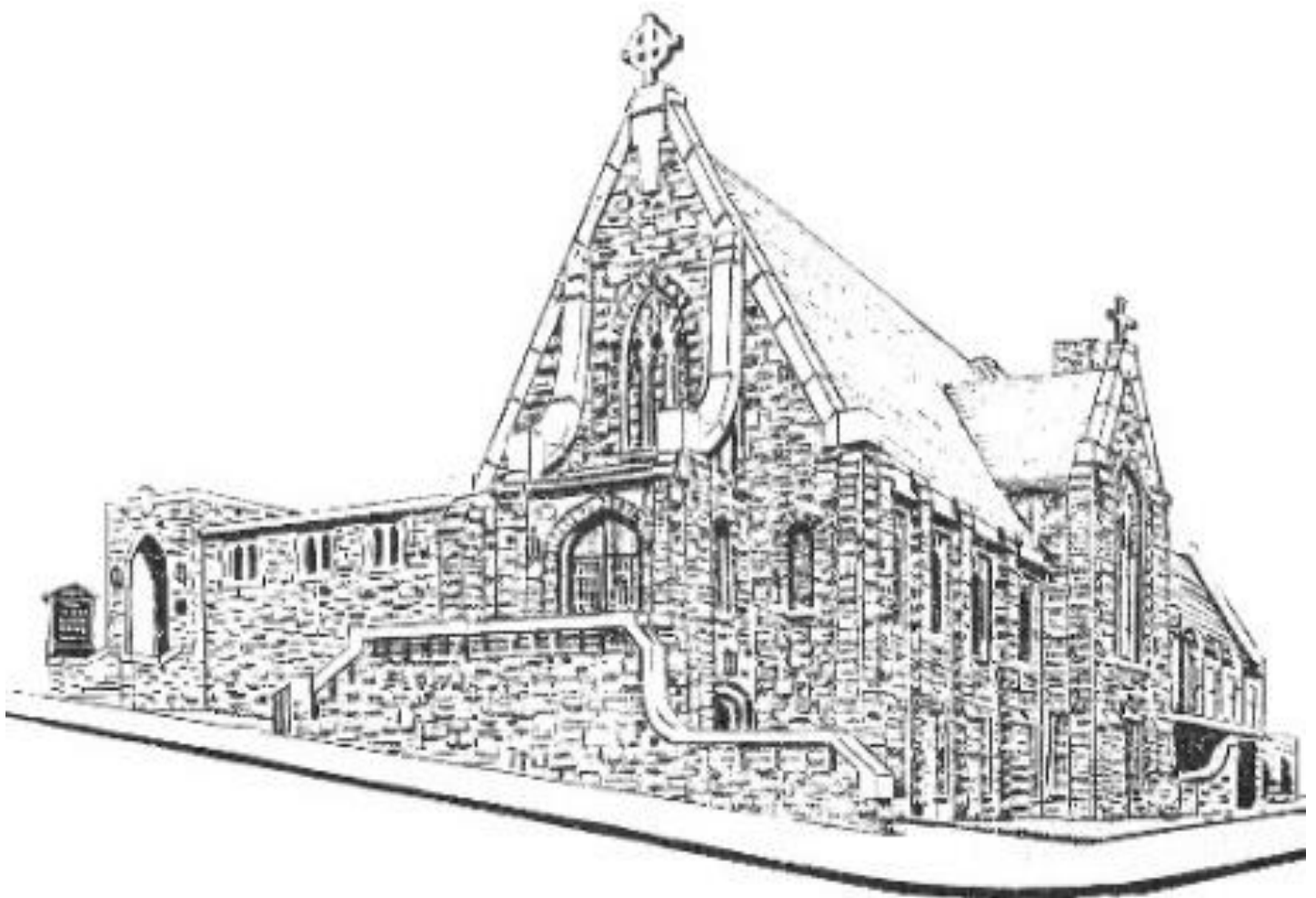


# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12, 2023



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

### The Processional Hymn

*When I survey the wondrous cross*

**H474**

*Celebrant* Bless be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. *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,



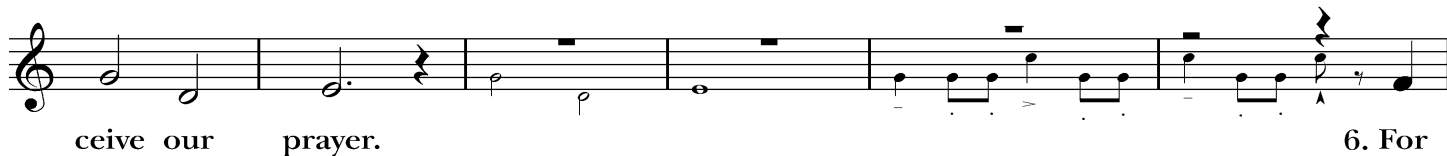
on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



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 -



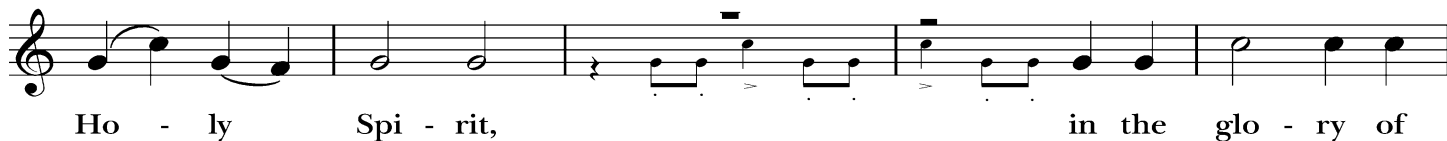
ceive our prayer. 6. For



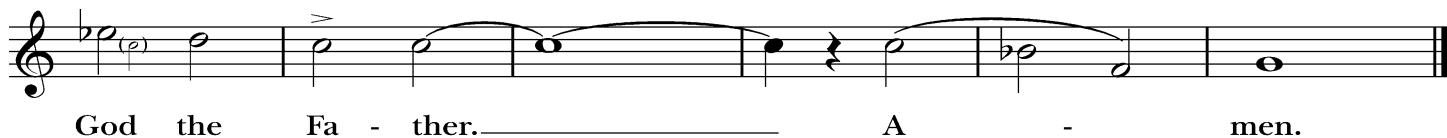
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

### The Collect for the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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

*Deuteronomy 30:15-20*

Moses said, “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           Thanks be to God!

### The Psalm

Psalm 119:1-8

*Beati immaculati*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!
2. Happy are they who observe his decrees and seek him with all their hearts!
3. Who never do any wrong, but always walk in his ways.
4. You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.
5. Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

6. Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.
7. I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.
8. I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

### The Second Lesson

*I Corinthians 3:1-9*

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, “I belong to Paul,” and another, “I belong to Apollos,” are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God!

### Hymn

*Strengthen for service, Lord*

**H312**

### The Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 5:21-37*

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

*People*        Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be

liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Paul Barker

## 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 Matthew, our Bishop, for Paul our Pastor, 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 Christ Church, Fairmont; Olde  
St. John's Church, Colliers.

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*

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **The Confession of Sin**

*The celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

*Silence may be kept*

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 Deacon stands and 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**

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

*People*        And also with you.



## **Announcements**

## **The Holy Eucharist**

### **Offertory**

*Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**H440**

*After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand and sing the familiar tune of the "Old 100<sup>th</sup>"*

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.

*People and Deacon*

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 Deacon then presents the Sacrament to the People*

The Gifts of God, for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### 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 Holy Communion from Reserved Sacrament

All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are invited and encouraged to receive the sacrament. With our return to the common cup, communion is distributed at the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available by asking the priest. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please join us at the rail and cross your arms over your chest. Depart through the doors at either side of the rail, returning to your pew through the door into the back of the nave.

## Communion Hymn

*I come with joy to meet my Lord*

**H304**

## Our Prayer after Communion

*After Communion, the Deacon says*

Let us pray.

*Deacon 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.

## Recessional Hymn

*My God, accept my heart this day*

**H697**

## The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People Thanks be to God.*

## Postlude



Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Peter and Patty Richardson. 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!



**Birthdays This Week:** Jim Justice

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

36

**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:** Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Ted Lewis, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, and Martin and Ethan .



The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God  
by Charlie Blevins and Betty Nash.



**Participants in Today's Liturgy**

Celebrant

The Rev. Paul Barker

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolytes

Mike Lilly

Lectors

Linda Ammar

Altar Guild

Elizabeth Clement and Patty Richardson

## **Calendar of Events**

Wednesday – February 15

ECM Dinner 6:00pm

Vestry Meeting 7:00pm

Thursday – February 16

Food Pantry 9am-11am

Tuesday – February 21

DOK meeting 10:30am

Wednesday – February 22

Ash Wednesday services at noon and 7:00pm

Friday – April 7

Good Friday – stations of the cross 12 noon

Good Friday service 7:00pm

## **Announcements:**

**Coffee Hour:** A Coffee Hour host or hostess is needed for all Sundays in March. Sign up on the white board located outside the Library. Contact Mary Catherine Williams (276-326-2411) or [mkw@dlwco.com](mailto:mkw@dlwco.com) if you have any questions. Thank you for helping Christ Church in this important ministry.

**Food Pantry Collection:** The Food Pantry is still collecting hats, scarves, gloves, socks, and blankets for our Food Pantry friends. A plastic tub is located in the narthex for these items.

**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.

**DOK Project:** The Daughters of the King is still collecting sweatpants for the children at The Wade Center. Plastic tubs are located in the narthex for these items. Sizes needed are M (8-10), L (12-14) and XL. We thank you for donating these items. Please contact Mary Catherine Williams if you have any questions.

**Altar Guild Flower Donation List:** The following dates are available in 2023 to donate altar flowers – October 29<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup>. If you interested, please contact Linda Ammar: [lwammar1@gmail.com](mailto:lwammar1@gmail.com) .

**Pledge Envelopes:** Please pick up your pledge payment envelopes, which are located on the table in the narthex.

Fellowship Home: If you are interested in helping prepare dinner for the Fellowship Home please sign the sheet in the Narthex. Thank you!

**Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish**

The Rev. Paul Barker

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mr. David Kersey

Mr. Peter Richardson

Pastor  
Organist & Choirmaster  
Parish Administrator  
Sexton  
Senior Warden  
Junior Warden

