



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## Easter Sunday

April 9, 2023



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

### The Processional Hymn

*Welcome, happy morning!*

**H179**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*People* The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Ringing of the bells*

### 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

*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!*

**H205**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*The people may be seated.*

### The First Lesson

*Acts 10:34-43*

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that

John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thank be to God!

### The Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

*Confitemini Domino*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
2. Let Israel now proclaim, "His mercy endures for ever."
14. The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.
15. There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous:
16. "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
17. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.
18. The Lord has punished me sorely, but he did not hand me over to death.
19. Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.
20. "This is the gate of the Lord; he who is righteous may enter."
21. I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.
22. The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
23. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
24. On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

## The Second Lesson

*Colossians 3:1-4*

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

*Lector*       The Word of the Lord.

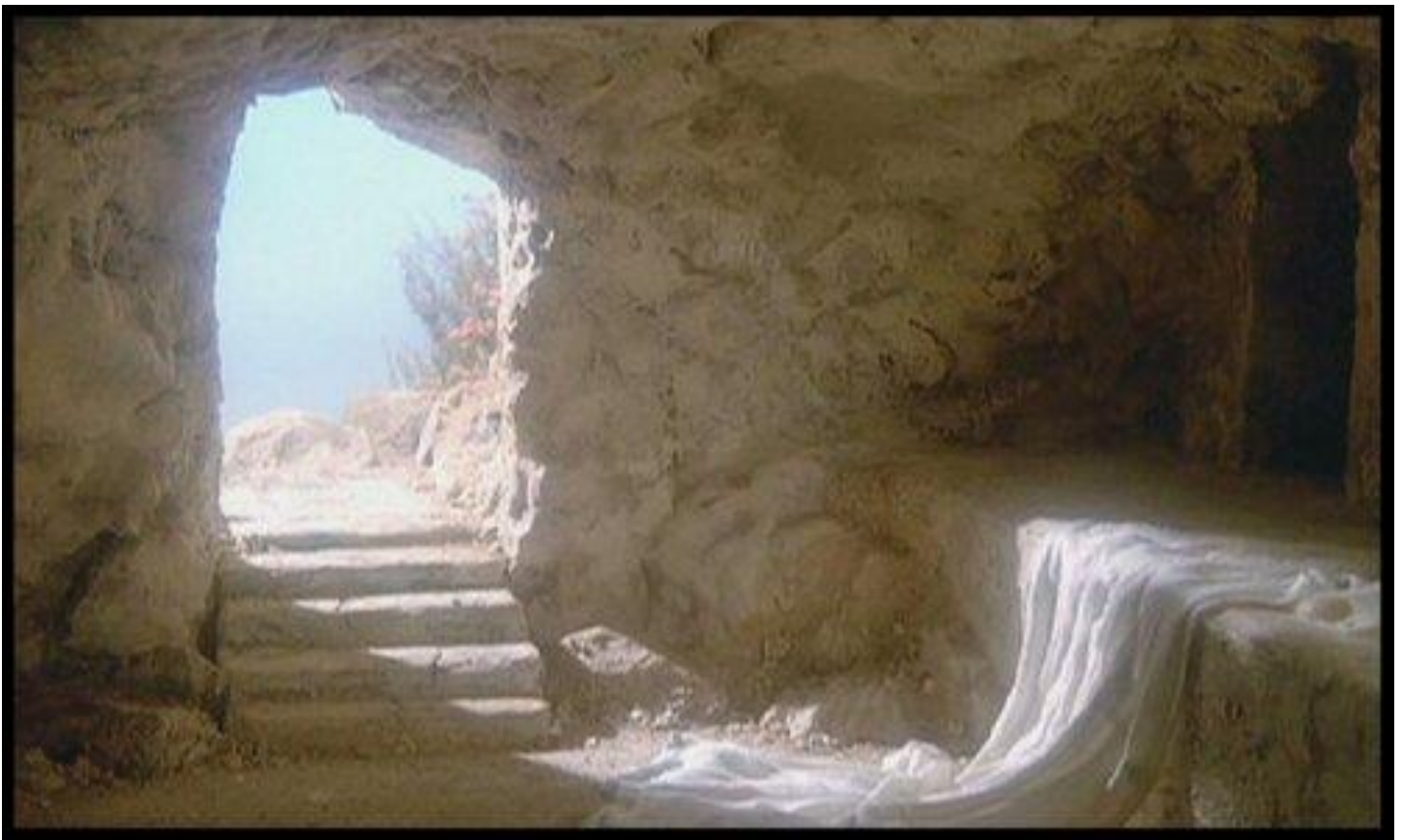
*People*        Thank be to God!

*The people standing.*

Sequence Hymn

*He is risen, he is risen!*

**H180**



## The Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 28:1-10*

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

*People*        Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was

a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you."

So, they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*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 and say together:*

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**

*The people may stand or kneel.*

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 with Thanksgiving for all those who have come to faith.

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 is omitted during the Season of Easter*



## The Peace

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

*People* And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of God's love.*



## Announcements

### The Holy Eucharist

#### Offertory

*Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done*

**H208**

*After the offertory piece has been played the people stand and sing the familiar tune of the "Old 100".*

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.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

Let us pray the words our Savior Christ taught us:

*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 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 welcome to receive the sacrament. Communion is distributed at the altar rail. It is the tradition of this parish that 12 to 14 people at a time receive communion at the altar rail, at which point all are dismissed together to return to their seats and another group may move forward to the 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 prayer, 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 by the readers' lectern.

## Communion Hymns

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Jesus lives! thy terrors now*

**H199**  
**H174**  
**H195**

## 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 Prayer

*The Celebrant then offers the following prayer to the people*

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through  
the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon us 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 us 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 us to your eternal inheritance. Amen.

And, may the blessing of God Almighty be upon us and remain with us for  
ever. *Amen!*

**The Dismissal**

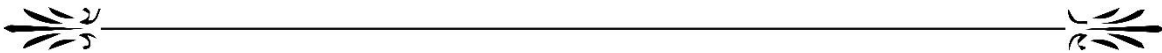
*Celebrant* Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* Thanks be to God. *Alleluia, alleluia!*

Postlude

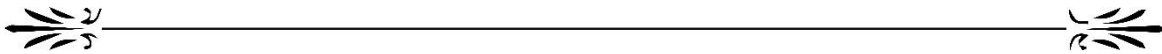
**Attendance Last Sunday:**

48



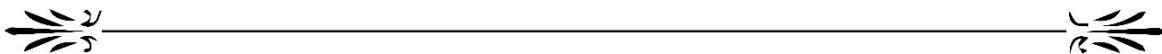
Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted by the Vestry. This is a time for us to have fellowship, share our joys and sorrows, and get to know one another better. It is very much an extension of the communal feast we share in the Holy Eucharist.

Please join us!

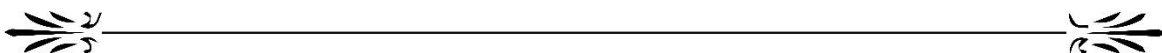


**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:** Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Fr. Russ Hatfield, Brian, Art Mead, Becky Steorts, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max,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

**Birthdays This Week:** Cici Dyer, Katherine Lewis, Albert Paine, and Robert Snidow.



The Altar Flowers are given today by Peter and Patty Richardson.



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

Celebrant

The Rev. Paul Barker

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolytes

Katherine Lewis

Lectors

Teresa Paine

Chalicer

Teresa Paine

Altar Guild

Chris Justice, Betty Nash, Linda Ammar

## **Calendar of Events**

Wednesday – April 12

Union Mission 4:00pm

Episcopal Church Women meeting 6:00pm

Tuesday – April 18

DOK meeting 10:30am

Wednesday - April 19

Men's Dinner 6:00pm

Vestry Meeting 7:00pm

Thursday - April 20

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am

Wednesday - April 26

Union Mission 3:30pm

## **Announcements:**

**Coffee Hour:** A Coffee Hour host or hostess is needed for each Sunday in **May**. 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.

**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.

**Parish Life:** There is a signup sheet in the Narthex for Parish Life. If you want to be a part of this very important ministry at our church, consider signing up. You can contact Mary Catherine Williams at [mkw@dlwco.com](mailto:mkw@dlwco.com) or 276-326-2411 with any questions.

**ECW Meeting:** The Episcopal Church Women will return to our quarterly meetings on Wednesday, April 12 at 6:00 pm in Rowley Hall. All Christ Church women are invited to attend. Pastor Paul will attend and offer a brief devotional. We will share a light dinner and dessert and ask that you bring a

monetary donation to cover the expenses of the dinner. There will be a signup sheet posted in the Narthex so we can plan for our dinner. We hope you will join us!

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

The Rev. Paul Barker

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mrs. Becky Beckett

Mr. Peter Richardson

Pastor  
Organist & Choirmaster  
Parish Administrator  
Sexton  
Senior Warden  
Junior Warden



The beautiful Easter lilies and flowers that adorn the Church today were given by the generosity of the following persons to the greater glory of God and in memory or honor of:

<b><u>Donor</u></b>	<b><u>In Honor of</u></b>
<i>Don &amp; Mary Catherine Williams</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Art Mead</i>	<i>In memory of Muriel Mead</i>
<i>Betty Nash &amp; Charlie Blevins</i>	<i>In honor of our grandchildren</i>
<i>Jim &amp; Susanne Pulse</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Terry Whittington</i>	<i>In memory of Terry &amp; Thelma Kelly Whittington</i>
<i>Mollie Whittington</i>	<i>In memory of William Gordan Whittington</i>
<i>David &amp; Debbie Faber</i>	<i>Thanksgiving of our grandsons</i>
<i>Shirley Ofsa</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Linda Ammar</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Ted, Katherine, Theodore, &amp; Theron</i>	<i>In memory of Clyde Deal</i>
<i>The Broyles Family</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Sheila Brooks</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Stan &amp; Grey Kiser</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Brian &amp; Lisa Tracey</i>	<i>In loving memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Don &amp; Becky Kersey</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Jim &amp; Chris Justice</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>David &amp; Bobbi Kersey</i>	<i>In memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Elizabeth Burton</i>	<i>In memory of Fred &amp; Mary Kathryn Burton</i>





