



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

Awake, arise, lift up your voice

H212

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

The Collect for the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The people may be seated.

The First Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to



you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thank be to God!

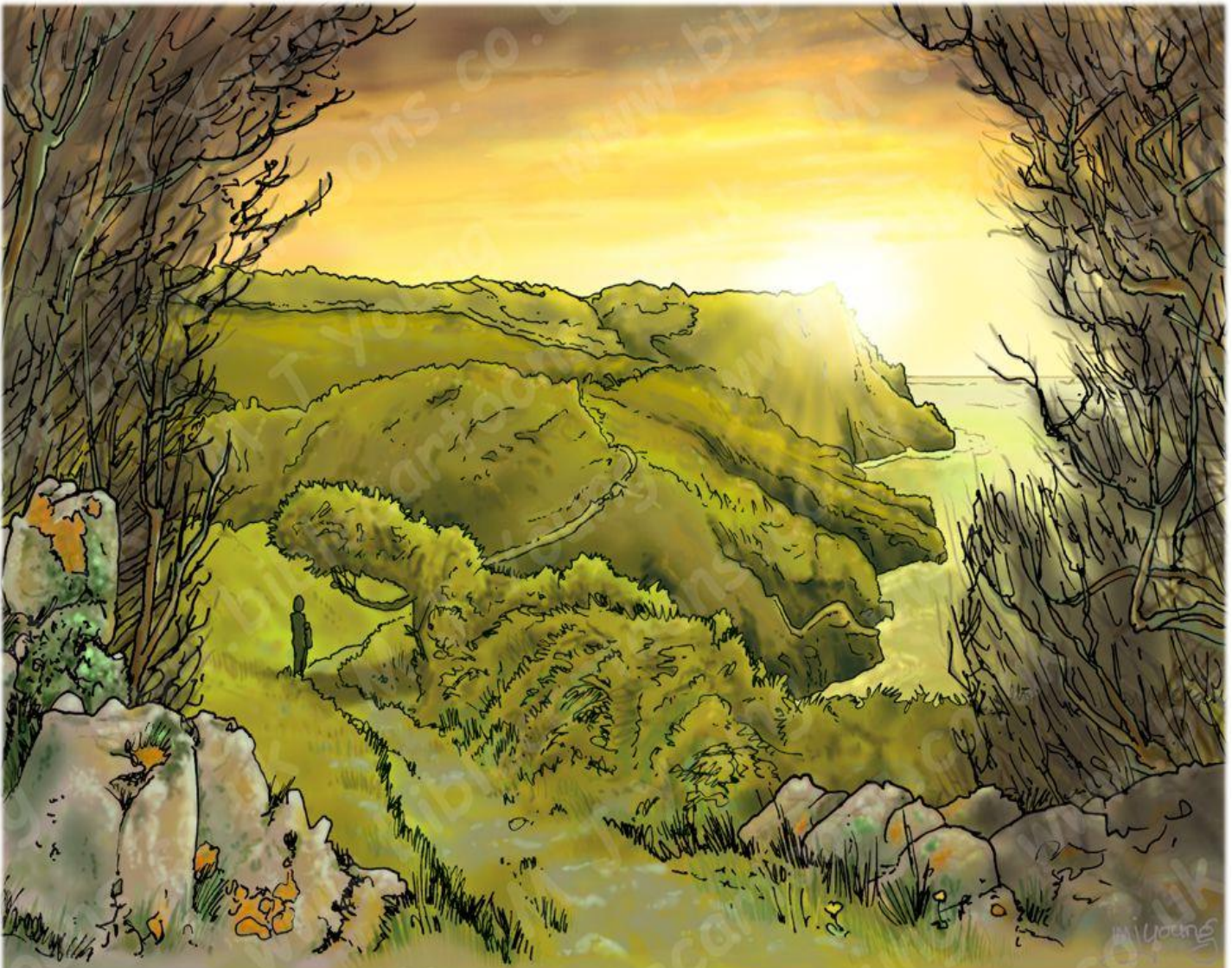
The Psalm

Psalm 16

Conserva me, Domine

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

1. Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
2. All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.
3. But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.



4. Their libations of blood I will not offer, nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
5. O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
6. My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
7. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.
8. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
9. My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.
10. For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the Pit.
11. You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

The Second Lesson

I Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thank be to God!

The people standing.

Sequence Hymn

Christ the Lord is risen again!

H184



The Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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 for St. Thomas' Church, White Sulphur Springs and St. Thomas' Church, Weirton.

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 Communion

Offertory

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

H174

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

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise

H191

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!*

Recessional Hymn

That Easter day with joy was bright

H193

The Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude



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



Attendance Last Sunday:

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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, 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: Pete Beavers, Phil Mahood, Betty Nash, Macon Clement, and Tom Coughlan.



The Altar Flowers are given today by Frank and Bernadette Dragotto.



Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev. Paul Barker

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolytes

Becky Kersey

Lectors

Cameron Clement

Altar Guild

Chris Justice, Betty Nash, Linda Ammar

Calendar of Events

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 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 or 276-326-2411 with any questions.



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

Alleluia
Christ is risen!