



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## First Sunday after Pentecost Trinity Sunday

June 4, 2023



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

The Processional Hymn     *Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!*

**H362**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant*     Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People*     His mercy endures 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 people standing.*

## Hymn of Praise

*Now thank we all our God*

**H397**

## The Collect for the Day

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

*People*     And also with you.

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The people sit.*

## The First Lesson

*Genesis 1:1-2:4a*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the

darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So, God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.





And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.



And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.





And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.



Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So, God created humankind in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.





Thus, the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

*Lector*                    The Word of the Lord.

*People*                    Thanks be to God!

### The Psalm

Psalm 8

*Domine, Dominus noster*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. O Lord our Governor, how exalted is your Name in all the world!
2. Out of the mouths of infants and children your majesty is praised above the heavens.
3. You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, to quell the enemy and the avenger.
4. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
5. What is man that you should be mindful of him? the son of man that you should seek him out?
6. You have made him but little lower than the angels; you adorn him with glory and honor;
7. You give him mastery over the works of your hands; you put all things under his feet:
8. All sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field,
9. The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.
10. O Lord our Governor, how exalted is your Name in all the world!

### The Second Lesson

*2 Corinthians 13:11-13*

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God!

*The people standing.*

Hymn

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

**H423**

The Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 28:16-20*

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

*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

*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 Michael, our presiding Bishop, 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 The Iona School and all Seminaries and Centers of Theological Education.

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*

*The Celebrant and people say:*

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.

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

## **Announcements**

## **The Holy Eucharist**

### **Offertory**

*Holy God we praise thy Name*

**H366**

*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. 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 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

*O day of radiant gladness*

**H 48**

### 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

*Thou, whose almighty word*

**H371**

## The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People Thanks be to God.*

## Postlude

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Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today Rob and Mimi Meritt. 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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**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:** Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Fr. Russ Hatfield, Brian, Don Harris, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Martin and Ethan, Jim, Joan Gray, Rosemary, Eddie Hughes, and Melinda Young.

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The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God  
by Tom Coughlan.

## Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev. Paul Barker

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolytes

Mike Lilly

Lectors

David Hardin

Altar Guild

Linda Thomas and Grey Kiser



**Birthdays This Week:** Patricia Meachum and Martha Linkous

**Calendar of Events**

Saturday – June 17	Pastor Paul’s Ordination to the Priesthood 10:00am
Tuesday – June 20	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – June 21	Men’s Dinner 6:00pm
	Vestry Meeting 7:00pm
Thursday – June 22	Food Pantry 9:00 -11:00am

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

**44**

**Announcements:**

**Coffee Hour:** A Coffee Hour host or hostess is needed **June 18**. 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.

**CEC Recycling Program:** Christ Church is doing recycling of things at the church. We have two recycling bins on the main floor beside the Men’s Restroom and two in Rowley Hall for cardboard/ paper and plastic. The Food Pantry have cardboard boxes that needs to be recycled also. The schedule for Bluefield is every Thursday at Tractor Supply 9am -1pm and Mitchell Stadium 2:00pm-3:30pm. They have a Facebook page “*Love Where You Live-Keep Mercer Clean*” and post the schedule at the beginning of each month. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex if you would like to help. Thanks to everyone for helping with this project.

**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.

**Luncheon:** There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for the Luncheon on June 17<sup>th</sup> so we will have a headcount. Deadline to sign up is June 11<sup>th</sup>.



**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