



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701
(304) 327-6861

www.ccc.org

Prelude

The people stand

The Processional Hymn

Alleluia, sing to Jesus

H 460

Welcome!

At this time, all children are invited to follow the cross and teachers to their classrooms.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

BCP 355

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.*

The people remain standing.

Hymn of Praise

Jesus lives! thy terrors now

H 195

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people remain standing.

Collect for the Day

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The people sit.

The First Lesson

Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the

God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The Psalm

Psalm 4

Cum invocarem

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

1. Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
2. "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"
3. Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.
4. Tremble, then, and do not sin; speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
5. Offer the appointed sacrifices and put your trust in the LORD.
6. Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.
7. You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
8. I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Second Lesson

I John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The people standing.

Hymn

Christ the Lord is risen again!

H 184

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:36b-48

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the

prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Hannah Anderson

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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

BCP 387

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 Priest, 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 Diocesan Reading Camps.

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 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 Hymn *I come with joy to meet my Lord* **H 304**

After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand as the gifts are brought forward and sing the familiar tune of the "Old 100th"

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.

The people remain standing

Eucharistic Prayer A **BCP 361**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread and says
Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.

The Celebrant 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 Distribution of the Holy 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 by the reader's lectern.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Should you prefer not to receive the physical elements of the Holy Communion, you are invited to read the following in silent prayer:

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.

Communion Hymn

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

H 208

Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 365

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 Blessing

All are invited by the couple to stay where seated and join them in the Blessing of the Marriage.

Recessional Hymn

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

H 343

The Dismissal

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 today by Tripper and Staci Thomas. This is a time for us to have fellowship, share our joys, learn ways we can pray for each other, 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, Martha Linkous, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Jim and Chris Justice, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Fr. Russ and Debbie Hatfield and family, Mary Lou, Brian, Don Harris, Ted and Katherine Lewis, Brian, John and Becky Beckett, Jim Paine, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Martin and Ethan, Jim, Joan Gray, Rosemary, Eddie Hughes, Doug Truter, Beth Kane, Debbie H., Kimberly Norriss, Mark, Donna Thompson-Whitehead, Liz, Joan, Dave, and Elvin.



The Altar Flowers are given by
Frank and Bernadette Dragotto for the greater Glory of God.



Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

Organist & Choirmaster

Acolyte

Lector

Altar Guild

The Rev. Paul Barker
Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Rob Merritt

Linda Ammar

Chris Justice

Attendance Last Sunday:

Birthdays this week: Cameron Clement, Rob Snidow, Pete Beavers, Phil Mahood, Betty Nash, Macon Clement, and Tom Coughlan.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday – April 16	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – April 17	Men’s Dinner 6:00pm
	Vestry meeting 7:00pm
Thursday – April 18	Food Pantry 9:00am – 11:00am
Sunday – April 21	Carry-in Parish luncheon after Church
Wednesday – April 24	Union Mission 3:30pm

Announcements:

Directory: If you haven’t returned your completed Questionnaire yet, please do so. Thank you!

Coffee Hour: A Coffee Hour host will be needed for **May 5, 12, 26**. Please sign up on the whiteboard located outside the library. Contact Mary Catherine Williams at: (276-326-2411) or mkw@dlwco.com if you have any questions. Thank you for helping Christ Church in this important ministry.

Food Pantry: The Food Pantry will be collecting cleaning supplies for the month of April!



THE BLESSED HOPE

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

Priest

Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden