



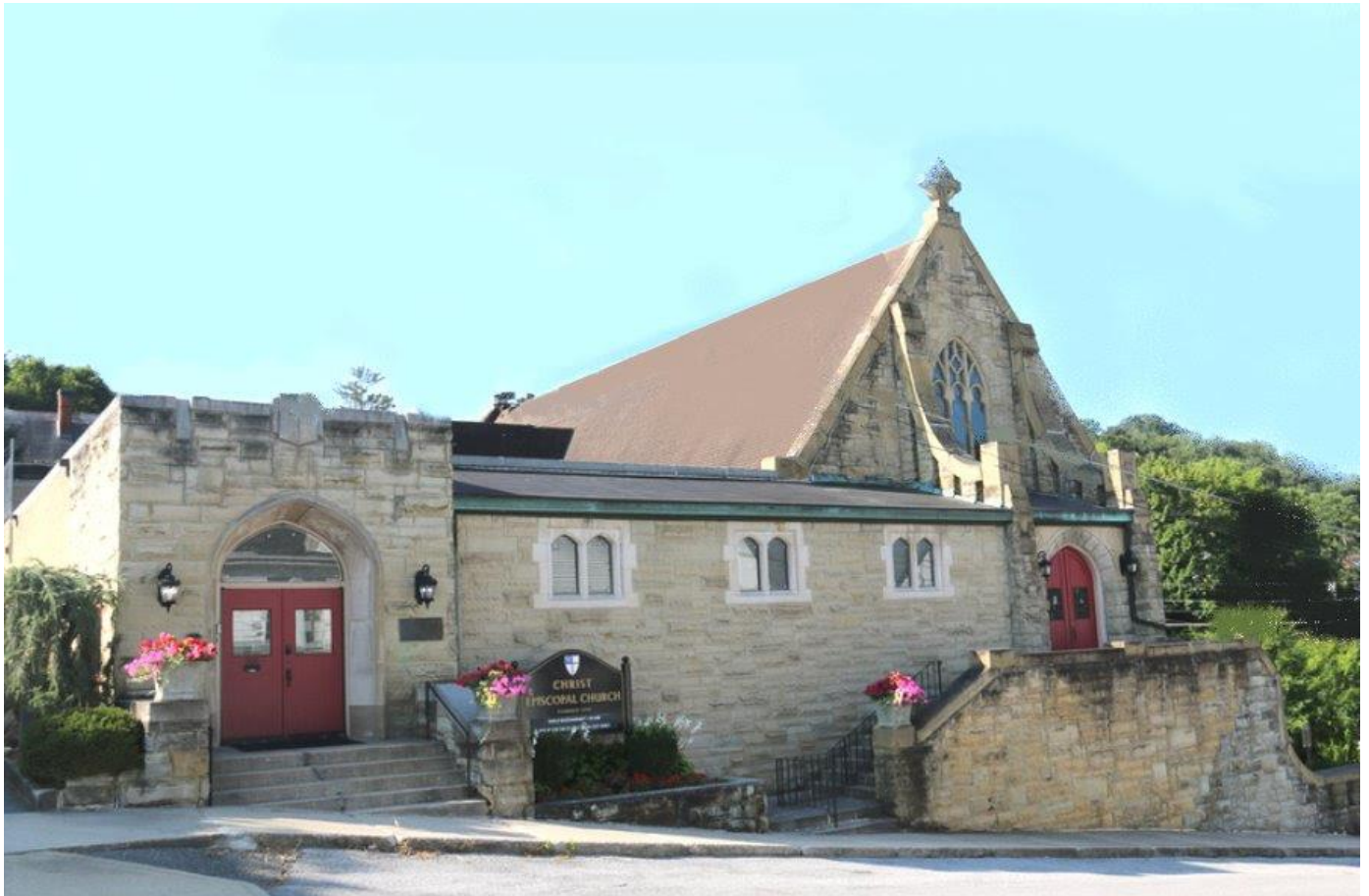
# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

### Liturgy of the Word

June 16, 2024



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

*The people stand*

### The Processional Hymn

*The Church's one foundation*

**H 525**

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit BCP 355  
*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen*

### The Collect for Purity

*Officiant*

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

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise*

**H 423**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*The people remain standing.*

### Collect for the Day

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The people sit.*

### The First Lesson

*Ezekiel 17:22-24*

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its

young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God!

### The Psalm

Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14

*Bonum est confiteri*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
2. To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning and of your faithfulness in the night season;
3. On the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.
4. For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.
11. The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
12. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;
13. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;
14. That they may show how upright the Lord is, \*  
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

### Second Lesson

*2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17*

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our

aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God!

*The people standing.*

Hymn

*I love thy kingdom, Lord*

**H 524**



## The Gospel Lesson

Mark 4:26-3

Reading from the Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

*Officiant*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

## Meditation

Bill Denney

## 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 State of West Virginia, its People, and its Future.

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*

*Officiant*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord *Amen.*

## **The Confession**

*The Officiant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

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 Bishop, when present, or the Officiant, stands and says*

May 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**

*Officiant*    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**

Offertory Hymn

*“Thy kingdom come!” on bended knee*

**H 615**



*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.

*The Officiant receives the offertory plate and places it on the credence table.*

*Officiant* May the Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

Let us pray the words our Savior Christ taught us:

*People and Officiant*

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.

Recessional Hymn

*Thy Kingdom come, O God*

**H 613**

**The Dismissal**

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

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

Postlude

**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, Norma Mahood, Don and Mary Catherine Williams and family, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Jim, Joan Gray, Rosemary, Eddie Hughes, Doug Truter, Beth Kane, Debbie H., Kimberly Norriss, Mark, Donna Thompson-Whitehead, Liz, Joan, Dave, Mopsy Shott Forbes, Allen, Everyly Nowlin, and Sandra.

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Shirley Ofsa. 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!

**Birthdays this week:** David Kersey, Becky Kersey.

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

**40**

The Altar Flowers are given by  
Don and Becky Kersey for the greater Glory of God.

**Participants in Today's Liturgy**

Officiant

Bill Denney

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolyte

Becky Kersey

Lector

Cameron Clement

Altar Guild

Betty Nash, Linda Gillespie, Staci Thomas

## Calendar of Events

Today – June 16

Tuesday – June 18

Wednesday – June 19

Thursday – June 20

Saturday – June 22 to June 28

Father's Day

DOK meeting 10:30am

Vestry meeting 7:00pm

Food Pantry 9:00am

General Convention in Louisville, KY

## 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 **June 7, 14, and 28.** Please sign up on the whiteboard located outside the library. Contact Mary Catherine Williams at: (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.

## Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Paul Barker

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Ms. Gina Vescio

Mrs. Becky Beckett

Mr. Peter Richardson

Priest

Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Faith