



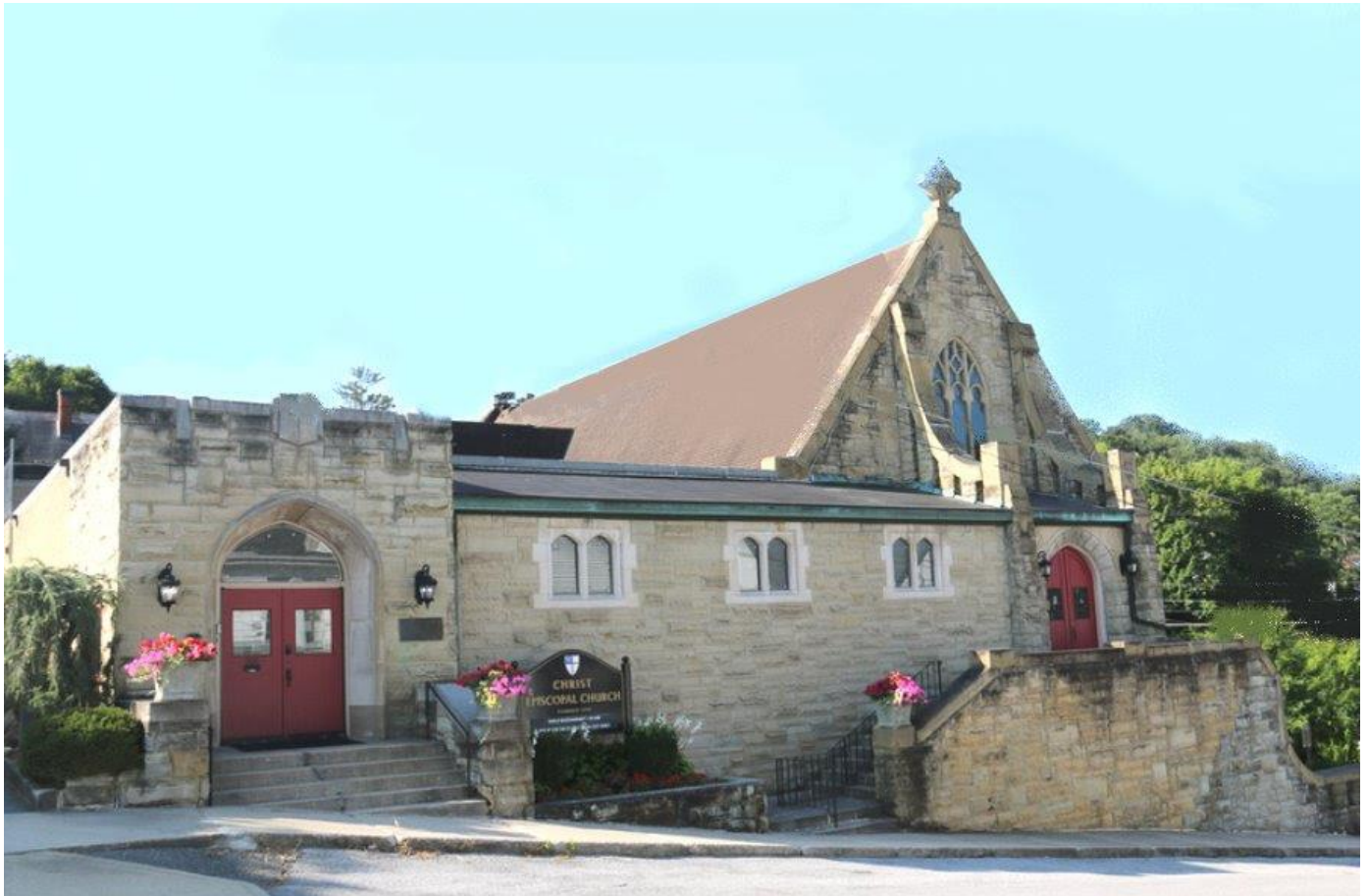
# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

### Liturgy of the Word

June 14, 2024



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

*The people stand*

### The Processional Hymn

*Lift up your heads, ye might gates*

**H 436**

*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

*How wondrous and great thy works*

**H 533**

*Officiant*

The Lord be with you.

*People*

And also with you.

*Officiant*

Let us pray.

*The people remain standing.*

### Collect for the Day

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The people sit.*

### The First Lesson

*Amos 7:7-15*

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said

to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.' "

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God!

### The Psalm

Psalm 85:8-13

*Benedixisti, Domine*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

8. I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
9. Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.
10. Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11. Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
12. The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.
13. Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

## Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God!

*The people standing.*

Hymn

*Hail, thou once despised Jesus!*

**H 495**

## The Gospel Lesson

Mark 6:14-29

*Officiant* A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

King Herod heard of Jesus and his disciples, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him.

When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

*Officiant* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Homily

Dr. Rob Merritt

## 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 St. Christopher, Charleston.

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

*Come thou fount of every blessing*

**H 686**

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

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Jim and Chris Justice. 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:** Bill Denney, David Hardin, Tripper Thomas, and John Beckett.

The Altar Flowers are given by  
Mike and Kay Sudduth for the greater Glory of God.

**Participants in Today's Liturgy**

Officiant

Dr. Rob Merritt

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolyte

Becky Kersey

Lector

Don Williams

Altar Guild

Linda Thomas and Elizabeth Clement

**Calendar of Events**

Tuesday – July 16

DOK meeting 10:30am

Thursday – July 18

Food Pantry 9:00am – 11:00am

**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 **July 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.

Flower Watering: Linda Gillespie the week of July 14-20<sup>th</sup>.

ECW Salad Supper: All women attending Christ Church are invited to bring a salad of your choice to Patty Richardson's house on Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm for our Salad Supper. Drinks will be provided.



**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