

# Christ Episcopal Church

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

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



## September 20, 2020

### Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*Being Proper 20 of the Church Year*

### A Service of Holy Eucharist



### Welcome to this Place of Prayer

This bulletin contains our liturgy today. If you are new or visiting this congregation for the first time we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card (from the usher) and place it in the collection plate located in the back of the church. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today and hope that you will continue your faith journey here.

### Opening Sentences

*Please stand*

*The Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant then says*

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.

## Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy.

*Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy.

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

## The Collect

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The Congregation may then be seated.*

## The First Lesson

*Exodus 16:2-15*

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat

in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

The word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### The Psalm

Psalm 105:6, 37-45

*Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength; continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 37 He led out his people with silver and gold; in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.
- 38 Egypt was glad of their going, because they were afraid of them.
- 39 He spread out a cloud for a covering and a fire to give light in the night season.

- 40 They asked, and quails appeared, and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.
- 41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, so the river ran in the dry places.
- 42 For God remembered his holy word and Abraham his servant.
- 43 So he led forth his people with gladness, his chosen with shouts of joy.
- 44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, and they took the fruit of others' toil,
- 45 That they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

*Said together*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### Second Lesson

*Philippians 1:21-30*

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Lesson

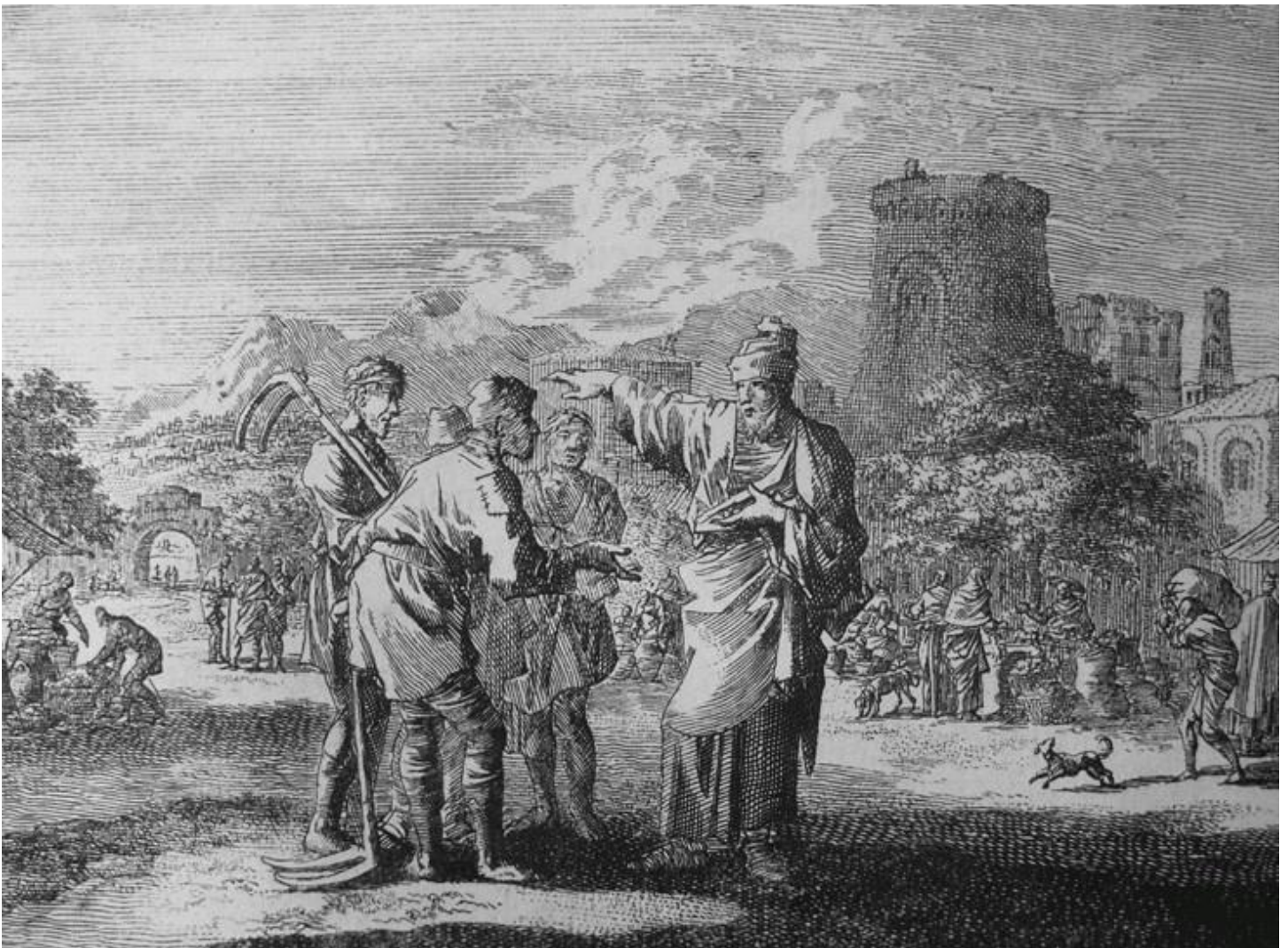
*Matthew 20:1-16*

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So, they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought



they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### The Sermon

the Rev. Chad Slater

### The Nicene Creed

*Written about 325 AD, this is the ancient statement of our faith. Please stand.*

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 IV)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Mike, our Bishop, for Fr. Chad, our Priest. Father, we pray for the congregation of Ascension in Hinton, with Deacon Nancy Martin and the Rev. Stan Holmes, and in Our Companion Diocese of Colombia The Rev. Daniel Mafla Silva of Mision La Natividad de Jesus. We pray also for those engaged in mission and ministry here at Christ Church, especially, our Ushers, Acolytes, Lay Readers, Chalicists, and Coordinators.

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, especially Donald, our President, Jim and Ralph, our governors, and Ron & Don, our mayors, and all the nations, in the ways

of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially those celebrating birthdays this week: Don Kersey, Jr., Lynn King, Norma Mahood, Patrick Anderson, Gina Wilkinson, and grant that we may serve Christ in them and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially those listed in our bulletin and all those we remember now either silently or aloud.

And all those whose need for healing is known to You alone. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died. We pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant says*

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.*



## A Prayer For New Bishop Search

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, you have created each person with many and varied gifts and joined our lives together as members of the Diocese of West Virginia. Look graciously upon us as we search for our 8th Bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Give us minds to discern your will, courage to follow where you lead, and hearts to love as you command, to the glory of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

## Confession & Absolution

*We confess our sins and are reassured of our pardon*

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant 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 Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## The Peace

*We share the joy of the Good News!*

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

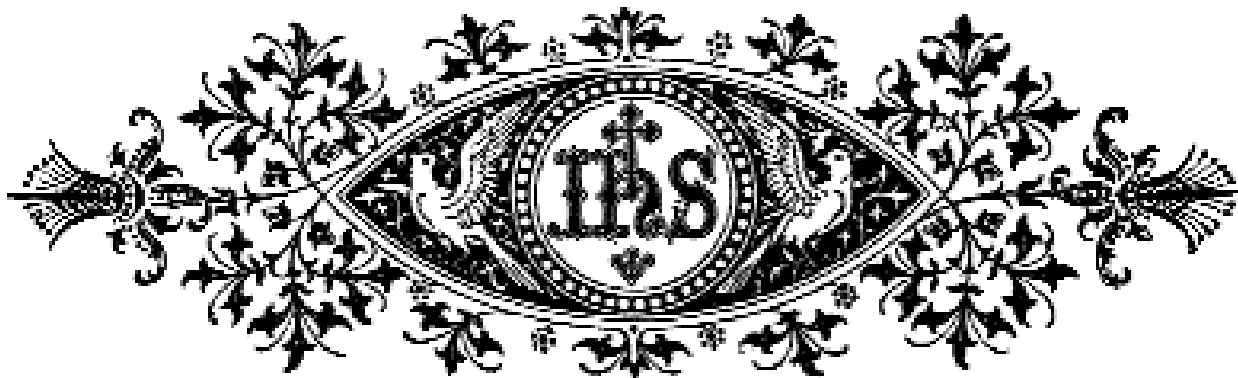
*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord by waving their hands.*

*No physical touching at this time, please.*

## Announcements

*Information for the good of the parish is shared at this time.*

*Individuals may share personal news at this time as well in order to foster fellowship.*



## The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called *the Mass* Offertory

### Eucharistic Prayer

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says*

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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

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

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*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 breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then may be said*

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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.

## A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*This prayer is for all those who, for various reasons, are unable to partake of the Holy Eucharist but otherwise earnestly desire to do so.*

*Celebrant*

The receipt of the bread and wine, which is the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. In as much as you would like to partake of this holy food, the spiritual grace provided by the same is supplied to you.

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 the Holy Sacrament

*All* baptized Christians, of any tradition, are welcome to receive the sacrament. Everyone, regardless of faith, is welcome to receive a blessing—simply cross your arms in front of you approach the priest. Each row, beginning in the front, should come up to the chancel step to receive the Blessed Bread. The Chalice cannot be offered at this time by direction of the Bishop of West Virginia. Once the priest has dropped the Blessed Bread in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has been Communed, the next is free to come to the chancel steps.

Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

## 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 Blessing

*The Celebrant offers a blessing over the people.*

The Dismissal

We are dismissed from this gathering to go into the world to spread the Good News and the love of Christ! *We respond to this instruction with: Thanks be to God!*

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The Altar Flowers are given today by  
Frank and Bernadette Dragotto in memory of loved ones.

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Participants in Today's Liturgy

Altar Guild                      Mimi Merritt                      Teresa Paine                      Linda Ammar

Last Sunday's Attendance

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Birthdays This Week: Don Kersey, Jr., Lynn King, Norma Mahood, Patrick Anderson, Gina Wilkinson

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Lee Puckett, Sr., Mabeline & Elton Robinson, Bea Paine, Lynn Burney, Marilyn Denney, Donna Fortune, Bob and Peggy Walk, Susan Jewell, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Kelly Cox, Mike McLeod, Maxine Stevenson, Dean Farmer, Bob Moore, Haddon Lazenby, Jack Burchette, Nick, JL, Cis Barrett, the Riddle Family, Kathy, Patsy Arnold, Randy Snider, Lane, Loraine, Sherry, Margarete Joplin, Scott Rust, Emily Broome and her son Randy, David, the Vinson Family, Joe Graham's family

## **Calendar of Events**

Wednesday - September 23

Union Mission 3:30pm

Sunday – October 4

Pet Blessing/Joint Worship 11:00am

Sunday – October 11

Bagging Groceries after Church

Wednesday – October 14

Union Mission 3:30pm

Thursday – October 15

Food Pantry 9:00am – 11:00am

Wednesday – October 21

Vestry Meeting 7:00pm

Wednesday – October 28

Union Mission 3:30pm

## **Announcements:**

**UTO Fall Ingathering:** The United Thank Offering is a personal and family devotional program of The Episcopal Church. It is a practice in our life in Christ that begins with daily prayers and gifts of thanksgiving. These gifts of thanksgiving are combined with others at parish and diocesan celebrations and finally within all of The Episcopal Church. The Offerings totaling nearly \$3 million each year are given away in the form of grants. These grants continue to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the Church throughout the world. Every penny of the Offerings is allocated each year for grants. Our Fall Ingathering of the United Thank Offering will take place every Sunday in September. Place your offering in the plate marked “UTO”.

**Online Bible Study:** Join us on Wednesday’s at 10:30 am for Bible study via Zoom. A link to the Zoom meeting is included in each week’s email. A link to a tutorial on how to use Zoom, if you are new to it, is available in the email as well. For more information please see Fr. Chad.

**Masks:** We are still accepting masks to give to church members who would like to attend services but do not have one. If you would like to contribute, please see Pastor Paul.

**Bishop Search Survey:** A link to an online survey from the Bishop Search Committee will be posted on social media and by our weekly email. Please take the time to complete this survey and help the Search Committee in its important task. If you prefer, a paper survey can be supplied to you. Please see Fr. Chad or Susanne Pulse, a member of the Bishop Search Committee, for more information. Thank you!

Family Eucharists: Fr. Chad is offering the opportunity for anyone who, for any reason, is unable to come to worship on Sunday mornings during the pandemic to arrange a time to receive Holy Eucharist in a private setting at the Church. This may be for individuals or families. Please see Fr. Chad for more information or to recommend he contact an individual about this opportunity.

Pet Blessing/Joint Worship: We will hold a joint Pet Blessing/Joint Worship service in the parking lot on Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 11:00am.



**Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish**

the Rev. Chad Slater

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mrs. Becky Beckett

Mr. Tom Coughlan

Rector  
Organist & Choirmaster  
Parish Administrator  
Sexton  
Senior Warden  
Junior Warden