



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

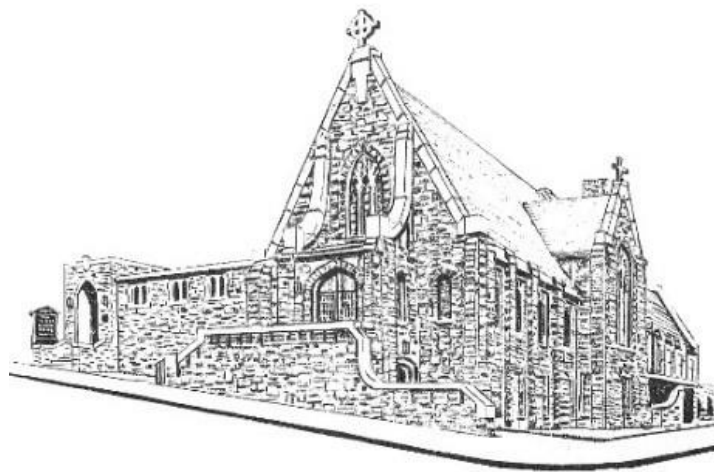
www.christchurchbluefield.org



The Third Sunday after Pentecost

and being Proper VI of the Church Year

June 13, 2021



Welcome to this Place of Prayer

This bulletin contains our liturgy today.

The hymns we sing can be found in the red book marked “Hymnal 1982.” If you are new or visiting this congregation for the first time, we invite you to fill out a Visitor’s Card 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.

As a sign of love and respect during this pandemic era our worship is somewhat different. We are observing social distancing, mask wearing, and enhanced cleaning protocols. As time and circumstances permit these changes to our worship will be amended. We hope that you will feel safe in this place and leave edified by our celebration of Word and Sacrament.

Prelude

Our Service Begins

Processional Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Hymnal 460

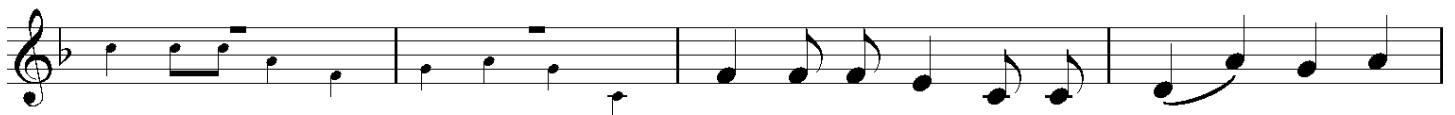
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

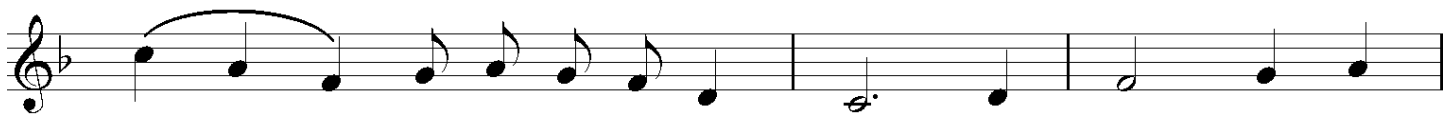
Celebrant

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 Gloria is then sung, all standing



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Our collective prayer for the day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

People Amen.



We Hear and Respond to God's Word

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.

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.

Congregational Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Hymnal 390

The Second Lesson

II Corinthians 5:6-17

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.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. 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 Thank be to God!

Gospel Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Hymnal 376

The Gospel Lesson

Mark 4:26-34

Please stand for the Gospel Lesson

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

Celebrant

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

the Very Rev. Chad Slater



The Nicene Creed

All stand as they are able

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.

**meaning the church universal, that all Christians are one people regardless of denomination*

The Prayers of the People

The intercessor greets the congregation with the following words and leads us in prayer.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Mike, our own Bishop, Chad, our priest, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Ron and Donnie, our mayors, Jim and Ralph, our Governors, and Joe, our President, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, especially Caroline Merritt, David Kersey, and Juliana Paine who celebrate birthdays this week, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially those on our prayer list; for our families, friends, and neighbors and for all those we now name before you either silently or aloud...; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, especially the loved ones of Phil and Valerie Mahood, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, St. Margaret, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant then offers the concluding collect for 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 and Absolution

The Celebrant then calls the people to confess their sins to God

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 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

At this time we will greet those around us in the name of the Lord. Please refrain from physical touch during this time so as to ensure proper social distancing for all members of the congregation. Thank you.



The Holy Eucharist, sometimes call *The Mass*

Offertory

Please stand and sing

Once to Every Man and Nation 733

Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve. Joshua 24:15

1. Once to ev - ery man and na - tion Comes the mo - ment to de - cide,
2. Then to side with truth is no - ble, When we share her wretch - ed crust,
3. By the light of burn - ing mar - tyrs, Christ, Thy bleed - ing feet we track;
4. Tho' the cause of e - vil pros - per, Yet the truth a - lone is strong;

In the strife of truth with false - hood, For the good or e - vil side;
Ere her cause bring fame and prof - it, And 'tis pros - p'rous to be just;
Toil - ing up new Cal - v'ries ev - er With the cross that turns not back.
Tho' her por - tion be the scaf - fold, And up - on the throne be wrong,

Some great cause, some great de - ci - sion, Of - f'ring each the bloom or blight,
Then it is the brave man choos - es While the cow - ard stands a - side,
New oc - ca - sions teach new du - ties; An - cient val - ues test our youth.
Yet that scaf - fold sways the fu - ture, And, be - hind the dim un - known,

And the choice goes by for - ev - er 'Twixt that dark - ness and that light.
Till the mul - ti - tude make vir - tue Of the faith they had de - nied.
They must up - ward still and on - ward, Who would keep a - breast of truth.
Stand - eth God, with - in the shad - ow, Keep - ing watch a - bove His own.

TEXT: James Russell Lowell
MUSIC: Thomas J. Williams

EBENEZER
8.7.8.7.D.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Celebrant and People

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

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

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

The second system of musical notation continues the melody. It features a long note with a slur over it, indicating a sustained sound. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

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

The third system of musical notation concludes the phrase. It includes a long note with a slur, similar to the second system. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

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.

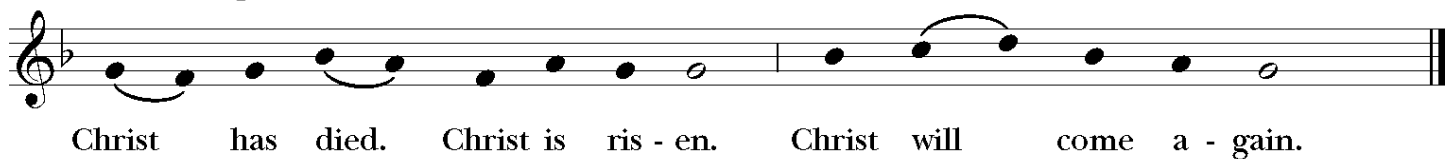
He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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



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 Fraction

The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People

These are 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 Invitation to Spiritual Communion

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.

Reader

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.

Communion Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

Hymnal 397

Hymn of Prayer

God Bless Our Native Land

Hymnal 716

Please stand.



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 then pronounces the following blessing over the people

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honor everyone;
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always.

People Amen!

Recessional Hymn

Onward Christian Soldiers

Hymnal 562

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!

The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Phil and Valerie Mahood.



The Chancel Rail Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God and in memory of all those who have died during the COVID-19 pandemic by Terry Whittington and David Hardin.

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted by Mrs. Linda Ammar. 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. You may remove your mask to eat or drink. Please join us.

Participants in Today's Liturgy

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Celebrant</u> | the Very Rev. Chad Slater |
| <u>Organist & Choirmaster</u> | Terry E. Whittington, Jr. |
| <u>Acolyte</u> | Emma Slater |
| <u>Lector</u> | Don Williams |
| <u>Altar Guild</u> | Betty Nash and Chris Justice |

Attendance Last Sunday:

35

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Lee Puckett, Sr., Mabeline Robinson, Bea Paine, Lynn Burney, Marilyn Denney, Donna Fortune, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Kelly Cox, Dean Farmer, Haddon Lazenby, Jack Burchette, Nick, JL, Cis Barrett, Kathy, Randy Snider, Lane, Loraine, Sherry, Margarette Joplin, Emily Broome, David, Cady, Martin, Marion Lowe, Harry, Ben Rose, Jay Kephart, Rick Longworth, all Healthcare Personnel and Frontline Workers, Jack, Sheri, Dan, Kathy, Hamilton Jones, Kensley, John, Emily, Kathleen Nieman, Alan Riggins, Brenda Payne, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Elizabeth Kane, Betty, and Matt

Birthdays This Week: Caroline Merritt, David Kersey, and Juliana Paine

Calendar of Events

June and July 2021

Wednesday – June 16

Thursday – June 17

No CEC volunteers needed at Union Mission

Vestry Meeting 7:00pm

Food Pantry 9:00am-11:00am

Announcements:

Christ Church Parish Survey 2021: *Who We Are & Where We Want to Go*

Christ Church is undertaking the process to survey the parish for the needs and hopes for our future as a community of faith. Everyone at the parish is encouraged to participate so that we can best understand where we are as a group and what direction the Spirit is calling us to move in.

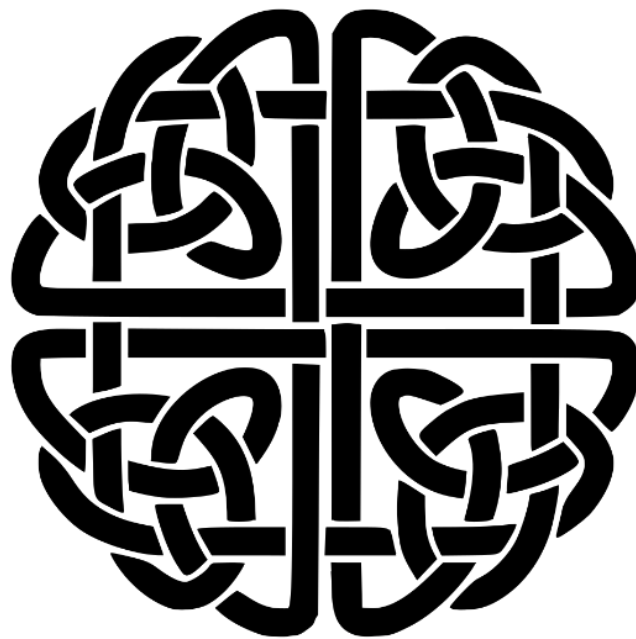
This Survey should take you approximately 20 minutes to complete. Please take your time and answer each question as honestly as you can. Some questions require only one answer while others may ask you to rank choices or select all that you feel are applicable. Paper copies can be made available for those who prefer. All answers are anonymous. The survey can be found at the following web address: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7F2CBN5>

Youth Fundraising Project: Episcopal Relief and Development is conducting a fundraising campaign entitled *1000 Days of Love* geared toward assisting children and mothers in developing countries around the world. As a part of this project we are asking all members of the parish to collect their spare change over the summer. This fall our youth will decide how to contribute this money to the ERD cause (such as an Anglican school, helping provide clean drinking water, etc.). Please help us with this exciting opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people across the globe and help set an example of giving and serving others to our own youth. Thank you!

Christ Church Choir: Plans for restarting our music program have begun. If you are interested in joining the choir (or returning to it) please let Terry Whittington know so he can get your contact information. Thank you!

Coffee Hour: Now that our after-service fellowship has resumed we need volunteers to host our Coffee Hour. If you are interested in signing up for a Sunday Coffee Hour please let Linda Ammar know. Thank you!

Pick the Hymns: Many of us have looked forward to the opportunity to return to congregational singing. Now that we have returned to singing during worship, wouldn't it be nice to sing some of your favorites? For a donation of \$50 to the Heating and Cooling Project at Christ Church you can select any hymn for any service this summer. Hymns should be from an Episcopal hymnal (*the Hymnal 1982* or *Lift Every Voice and Sing*). Please see Fr. Chad or Terry Whittington to "pick the hymns!"



Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

the Very Rev. Chad Slater

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mr. David Kersey

Mr. Peter Richardson

Rector

Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden