The First Lesson Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

#### The Psalm Psalm 146

Lauda, anima mea

- 1 Hallelujah!
  Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- 2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, for there is no help in them.
- When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.
- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever;
- Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- The Lord shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.

  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 James 2:1-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

# <u>Hymn</u> O for a thousand tongues to sing

## Gospel Lesson

Mark. 7:24-37

H493

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even

the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

#### The Sermon

#### The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Written about 325 AD, this is the ancient statement of our faith

## Prayers of the People VI

BCP 392

We pray together as the people of God

#### Confession & Absolution

BCP 360

We confess our sins and are reassured of our pardon

The Peace

We share the joy of the Good News!

# The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called the Mass

<u>Offertory</u>

In God, My Faithful God

Schalk

# Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name thee while in essence only One, undivided God we claim thee; then, adoring, bend the knee and confess the mystery.

From Hymn 366 vs. 4

# Eucharistic Prayer "B"

BCP 367

Sanctus Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S129
Memorial Acclamation Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S138
The Lord's Prayer Traditional version, found on BCP 364
Fraction Anthem H-S 152

#### 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 as the priest comes by. 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 to those who request them.

#### Communion Hymns

O saving victim	H 311
Thine arm, O lord, in days of old	H 567
Let all mortal flesh keep silence	H 324
Our Prayer after Communion	BCP 366
Hymn The Church's one foundation	H 525

#### 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!* 

Following our service today will be Coffee Hour, hosted by **John and Carol Georgis**. 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. Please join us.

The Altar Flowers are given today by **Richard and Carolyn McCue Matthews**, in memory of loved ones.

# Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Acolyte</u>	Rob Merritt		Becky Beckett
Chalicist	Becky Beckett		Rob Merritt
<u>Lector</u>	Bernadette Drag	gotto	Becky Beckett
Altar Guild	Linda Ammar	Mimi Merritt	Teresa Paine

#### Attendance Last Sunday

ast Sunday

32

<u>Birthdays This Week</u>: Joe Graham, Bobbi Kersey, and Samantha Kinney

This Month's Plate Offering: United Thank Offering Fund



#### Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene Dimes—Wanda Myers—Bonnie Taylor—Joe Sanders—Marlene—Lee Puckett, Sr.—Phyllis & Nelson Walker—Linda—Valerie Mahood—Sierra—Alex B.—Toni R.—Ragen—Jared Cregger—Kerrigan Farmer—Lindsey Parsley—Daisy Bowman—Ellie Spencer—Sue Godwin— Mabeline & Elton Robinson—Ann Richardson—Sherry Mitchell—Carrie D.—Dorothy Curry—Loraine Keffer— Sharon Cranfill—Margie Hardin—George Strike—Levertt T.—Bea Paine—Frankie Sparks

#### **Calendar of Events:**

#### **Announcements:**

<u>Vestry Meetings</u>: Vestry Meetings have been changed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

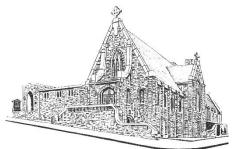
Worship Coordinator: We are needing volunteers to help with scheduling Worship assistants. Please see Cameron Clement.



Join us Sept, 16th, 23rd and 30th for Coffee Hour talks!

# Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

the Rev. Chad Slater	Rector
Ms. Emma Bennett	Parish Administrator
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.	Organist & Choirmaster
Mrs. Vanessa Hall	Sexton
Dr. Rob Merritt	Senior Warden
Mrs. Dee Puckett	Junior Warden



# Christ Episcopal Church

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701-2910 (304) 327-6861 www.christchurchbluefield.org



https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbluefield



# September 9, 2018

# The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

and being the Sunday designated Proper XVIII of the Church Year

# Welcome to this Place of Prayer

If you are new or visiting this congregation for the first time we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card (found on the rack in front of you) and place it in the collect plate as it is passed. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today and hope that you will continue your faith journey here.

This bulletin will help guide you through today's service. The abbreviation "H" stands for "Hymnal." This is the larger red book located on the shelf in front of you. That music noted as "H-S" followed by a number is service music, and is found in the very first pages of the Hymnal. "BCP" is our abbreviation for "Book of Common Prayer," which is the smaller red book.

# The Liturgy of the Word

Hymn Thou, whose almighty word H 371

The Service Begins
Gloria in Excelsis
BCP 355
H-S 280

The text to this ancient hymn of praise is found in the BCP

The Collect

Our collective prayer for the day.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.