#### The Liturgy of the Word O come, O come, Emmanuel H 56 Hymn **BCP 355** The Service Begins Gloria in Excelsis H-S 280

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

#### The Collect

Our collective prayer for the day.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### The First Lesson

#### Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Response The Song of Mary, called the Magnificat Luke 1:46-55 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit

rejoices in God my Savior;

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm,

he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,

for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers,

to Abraham and his children for ever.

#### 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

#### Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings vou have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The angel Gabriel from heaven came Hymn H 265



#### Gospel Lesson

#### Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

## The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People We pray together as the people of God

Confession & Absolution We confess our sins and are reassured of our pardon

The Peace

The Litu Offertory

Presentat

Eucharist Sanctus Memorial The Lord Fraction  $\checkmark$ 

#### Communi Bread of he

Tell out, m "Sleepers,

Our Pray

Hymn

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!

**BCP 358** Written about 325 AD, this is the ancient statement of our faith

We share the joy of the Good News!

urgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called the Mass				
у У	Prepare the way of the Lord	Rowan		
tion o	f Gifts and Tithes			

To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, ever One, Praise, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally

From Hymn 63 vs. 5

BCP 387

**BCP 360** 

stic Prayer "D'	, _	BCP 372
	Words in BCP, Musical Setting	H-S 129
Acclamation		H-S 141
"s Prayer		BCP 364
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.

nion Hymns	
beaven, on thee we feed	Н 323
ny soul, the greatness of the Lord	Н 437
wake!"	H 61
yer after Communion	BCP 366
Come, thou long expected Jesus	H 66



The Altar Flowers are given today by The Altar Guild in memory of loved ones. The Advent Wreath is given by Mr. & Mrs. Marc Meachum in memory of Mr. & Mrs. M.T. Meachum. The Door Wreathes are given by Mr. Bill Davis in memory of Mrs. Betsy Davis The Chrismon Tree is given by Mr. & Mrs. Peter Richardson in memory of loved ones.

#### Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Acolyte</u>	Becky Kersey	Chris Justice
Chalicist	Becky Kersey	Alyson Bowling
Lector	Bill Denney	Alyson Bowling
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Patty Richardson Becky Bec	kett Carol Georgis
	Delia Kersey Chris Justice	Elizabeth Clement
	Emma Slater	

Birthdays This Week: Carol Georgis and Mary Catherine Williams

#### This Month's Plate Offering: the Boy's Home

#### Attendance Last Sunday

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## Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene Dimes, Wanda Myers, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Marlene, Lee Puckett, Sr., Phyllis & Nelson Walker, Alex B., Toni R., Jared Cregger, Kerrigan Farmer, Lindsey Parsley, Daisy Bowman, Ellie Spencer, Sue Godwin, Mabeline & Elton Robinson, Ann Richardson, Sherry Mitchell, Carrie D., Loraine Keffer, Sharon Cranfill, George Strike, Levertt T., Bea Paine, Frankie Sparks, Audrey, Denny Arner, Jodi Scarberry, Charlotte Woolwine, Lynn Burney, Bob Waschler, Elizabeth Kane, David Hardin family

## **Calendar of Events**

Monday – December 24	Christmas Eve early service 5pm	
	Christmas Eve late service 11pm	
Sunday – January 6	Festival HE for Epiphany	
	LEV Training after Church	
Canterbury Club/12 <sup>th</sup> Night Party at the Thomas'		
Wednesday – January 9 D	Dinner at Union Mission 3-5:30pm	
Sunday – January 13	Food Pantry bagging after Church	

Tuesday – January 15 Wednesday – January 16

DOK at 10:30am Men's Dinner 6:00pm Vestry 7:00pm Food Pantry 9-11:00am

Thursday – January 17 Dinner at Union Mission 4:30pm Wednesday – January 23 Sunday – January 27 Presiding Bishop's Revival in Roanoke

#### Announcements:

Church Pens: We recently had pens, bearing Christ Church's name, made. You may pick yours up in the Narthex.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors: A new ministry will be starting this fall. Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV's) will take Holy Communion regularly to shut-ins of the parish and share fellowship with them. If you are interested in this ministry, please see Fr. Chad. Training meeting will be held after Church on Sunday, January 6, 2018.

Canterbury Club: Mrs. Linda Thomas will be hosting a Canterbury Club and Twelfth Night Party at her home on Sunday evening, January 6, at 6 pm. Bring a covered dish to share as we celebrate Epiphany!

Coffee Hour Volunteers are needed: If you would like to host one of Sunday after church Coffee Hour's, please see the sign up board near the hospitality station.

Revival in Roanoke: Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be in Roanoke on Sunday, January 27, for a revival service at the Berglund Center. We are working on a plan to carpool to the service, with some interested in driving over the night before and some the morning of the service. If you are interested in helping to coordinate this carpooling, please see Elizabeth Clement or Fr. Chad. Thank you!

Food Pantry Special Items for January: We're still collecting gloves, hats and scarves till January 13th.

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

The Rev. Chad Slater Ms. Emma Bennett Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr. Mrs. Vanessa Hall Dr. Rob Merritt Mrs. Dee Puckett



Rector

Sexton

Parish Administrator

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Organist & Choirmaster

faith journey here.



# Christ Episcopal Church

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

https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbluefield



# December 23, 2018

#### 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

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.