

The First Lesson

*Amos 5:18-24*

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord:

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

The Psalm

Psalm 70

*Deus, in adiutorium*

- 1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O Lord, make haste to help me.
- 2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.
- 3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, because they are ashamed.
- 4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say for ever, "Great is the Lord!"
- 5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me speedily, O God.
- 6 You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry.

*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

*Thessalonians 4:13-18*

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus

died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Hymn

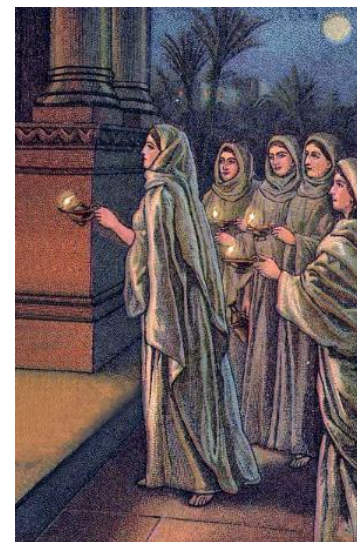
*Jerusalem, my happy home*

H 620

Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 25:1-13*

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."



The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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

Prayers of the People IV

BCP 388

*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*



Offertory

*Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake*

Farrant

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*To thee, great One in Three,  
The highest praises be, Hence evermore;  
thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,  
and to eternity love and adore.*

From Hymn 365 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. 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

*Bread of heaven, on thee we feed* H 323

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence* H 324

*Before thy throne, O God, we kneel* H 574

Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 365

Hymn *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

**H 690**

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, everyone is invited to the Library for coffee, in honor of Buck and Louisa Sowers.  
Please join us!

The Altar Flowers are given today by  
Mrs. Kathy Burge in memory of her loved ones.

**Participants in Today's Liturgy**

<u>Acolyte</u>	Becky Beckett	Elizabeth Burton	
<u>Chalicer</u>	Becky Kersey	Becky Beckett	
<u>Lector</u>	Delia Kersey	Becky Kersey	
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Mimi Merritt	Linda Ammar	Linda Thomas

**Attendance Last Sunday**

50

**Birthdays This Week:**

Rob Merritt      Debbie Faber



Prayer Requests

**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers**

Dorene Dimes	Wanda Myers	Tom Blevins
Bonnie Taylor	Joe Sanders	Edi
Marlene	Lee Puckett, Sr.	Sierra
Linda	Valerie Mahood	Thomas Jaworski
Mary Hawthorne	Hal Gusler	Roy Abel
Alex B.	Toni R	Brian
Phyllis & Nelson Walker		

**Calendar of Events**

Sunday-November 12

Canterbury Club  
at Kipp Cortez's 6pm

Thursday-November 16

Food Pantry

Saturday-December 2

Godly Play Training

Sunday-December 3

Annual Meeting

Sunday-December 10

Canterbury Club

with the Beckett's 6pm

Tuesday-December 12

Taize Service 6pm

Tuesday-December 21

DoK Meeting 10:30am

Sunday-December 24

Morning Prayer 10am

HE at St. Mary's 6pm

HE at CEC 11pm

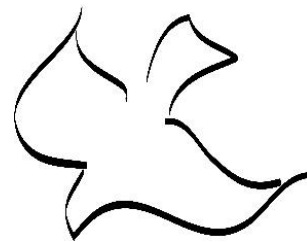
**Announcements:**

Food Pantry: We will be collecting blankets in November and hats, gloves, and scarves in December. Thank you for your donations.

Prayer Requests: Please review the current prayer request list, and let us know if a name can be removed or a new name added.

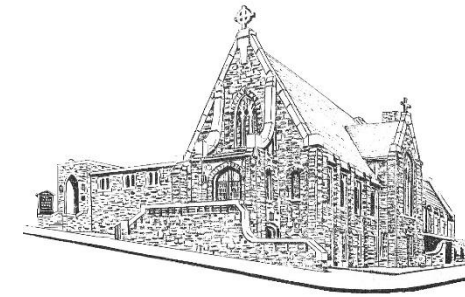
Godly Play Training: Through the generosity of the Diocese, Christ Church will host training for the Montessori based Sunday School curriculum Godly Play. This training will be on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> with an Open House following church on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you are interested in attending training, please see Fr. Chad.

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for Christmas in honor or memory of a loved one, there will be a sign-up sheet at the usher's station beginning next Sunday. Poinsettias are \$15 each.



**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
Mr. David Hardin	Senior Warden
Mrs. Dee Puckett	Junior Warden



# Christ Episcopal Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbluefield>

## **November 12, 2017**

### **The Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost**

*Being the Sunday of Proper XXVII 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 *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates* **H 436**

The Service Begins **BCP 355**

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.*

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*