

The First Lesson

*Exodus 20:1-17*

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Psalm

Psalm 19

*Caeli enarrant*

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? Cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

*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

*I Corinthians 1:18-25*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

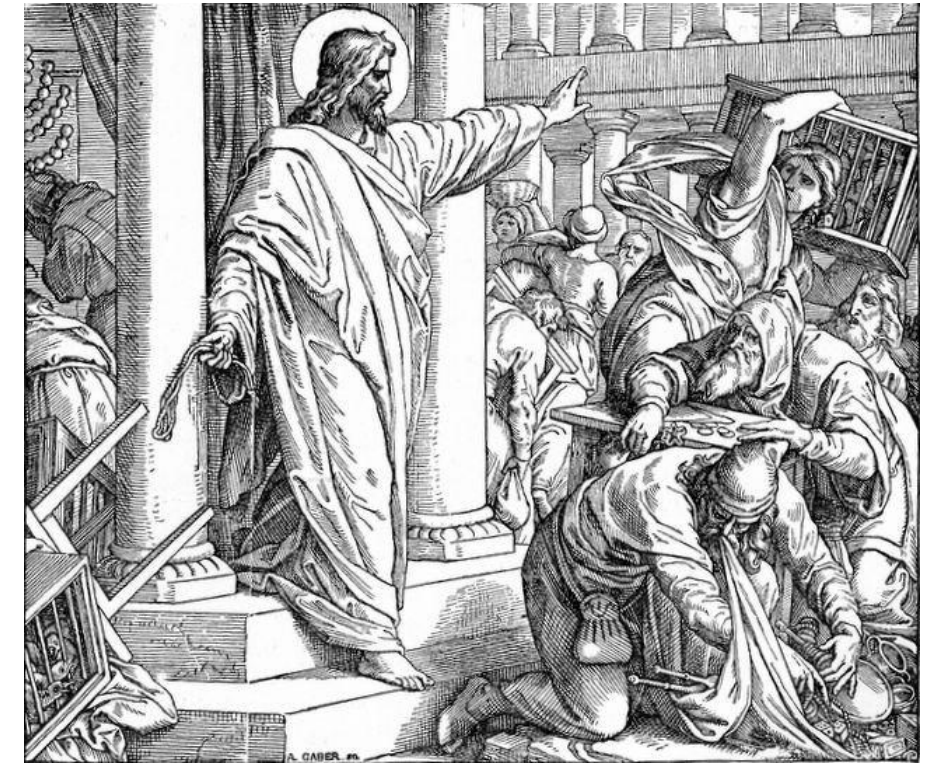
Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the

wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Hymn

*Let thy Blood in mercy poured*

**H 313**



Gospel Lesson

*John 2:13-22*

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!”

His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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

Prayers of the People V BCP 389  
*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 *In God, my faithful God* Schalk

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes  
*O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold Name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord* from H 143, v. 5

Eucharistic Prayer "C" BCP 369  
*Sanctus* Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S129  
*The Lord's Prayer* Traditional version, found on BCP 364  
*Agnus Dei* H-S 161  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.*

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  
*Strengthen for service, Lord* H 312  
*Before thy throne, O God, we kneel* H 574  
*Rock of ages, cleft for me* H 685

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 366

Hymn *Jerusalem, my happy home* H 620

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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Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted by Mrs. Rebecca Broyles. 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.

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Birthdays This Week: Diane Sudduth

Attendance Last Sunday 48

Participants in Today's Liturgy  
Acolyte Elizabeth Burton Becky Kersey  
Lectors Bernadette Dragotto Becky Kersey  
Chalicians Becky Kersey Jay Kephart  
Altar Guild: Becky Beckett Carol Georgis  
Patty Richardson

**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—Edi—Sierra—Alex B.—Toni R.—Linda Sydeski—Joan—Ragen—Marion Lowe—Jared Cregger—Peyton Cline and family—Kerrigan Farmer—Mike—Daisy Bowman—Linda Thomas and family

**Calendar of Events**  
Wednesday – March 7 Lenten Dinner 6pm Pot Luck  
Tuesday – March 13 Vestry Meeting 7pm  
Wednesday – March 14 Lenten Dinner 6pm Potato Bar  
Thursday – March 15 Food Pantry 9-11am  
Tuesday – March 20 DOK Meeting 10:30am  
Wednesday – March 21 Lenten Dinner 6pm Pot Luck  
Thursday – March 29 Seder Meal

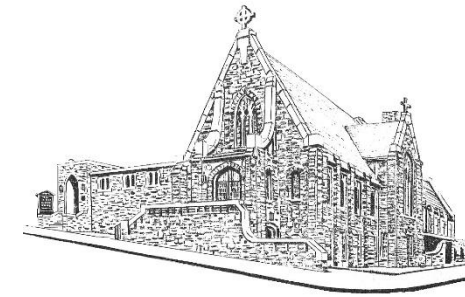
**Announcements:**  
Lenten Dinner: This year's theme will be on Christian spirituality and mindfulness, led by Dr. Assaad Mounzer. Dinner will be carry in or catered. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring a friend!

Lent Madness: It's that time of year again! Get your copy of the 2018 Sainly Scorecard at the Usher's Table in the Narthex. Read the short biographies of the saints each day and vote for your favorite at [www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org). Who will win this year's Golden Halo?

Coffee Hour: We are in need of volunteers for Coffee Hour!  
Lenten Dinner Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup>: See signup sheet in the Narthex listing items needed for the Potato Bar (White and Sweet). See Mary Catherine Williams if you have questions.

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**Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish**  
the Rev. Chad Slater Rector of Christ Church  
Ms. Emma Bennett Parish Administrator  
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr. Organist & Choirmaster  
Mrs. Vanessa Hall Sexton  
Dr. Rob Merritt CEC Senior Warden  
Mrs. Dee Puckett CEC Junior Warden



# Christ Episcopal Church

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

## March 4, 2018

### The Third Sunday in Lent

**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 *The spacious firmament on high* H 409

The Reading of the Decalogue BCP 350  
During Lent we are reminded of God's Law, as symbolized by the Ten Commandments. Following the reading of each of the Commandments, please respond with, *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

The Trisagion H-S 102  
*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.*

The Collect *Our collective prayer for the day.*  
Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*