



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

*The
Season
of
Lent*



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861 www.cccbif.org

Everything you will need to participate in today's service may be found in this booklet. Due to Covid-19, communion is offered in one kind only to avoid using the common cup. UV Light Air Sanitizers are present to help provide a pathogen-free worship space. While we do not require face masks, feel free to wear a mask if you prefer to do so. We hope that you will feel safe in this place and leave uplifted by our celebration today.

We encourage everyone, out of love and respect to all, to get fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19.

If you are new or visiting 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. Our Interim Rector would be delighted to meet you and answer any questions you might have. Please know that all are welcome here, no exceptions.

Prelude

Our Service Begins

Please stand as you are able for the procession

The Opening Sentences

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

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

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant

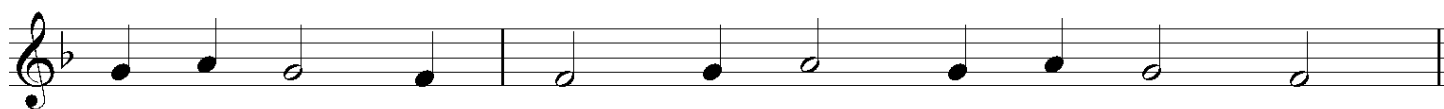
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Kyrie


The Kyrie is then sung, all standing




Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer -




cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

We Hear and Respond to God's Word

The First Lesson

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The Psalm

Psalm 126

In convertendo

We will read the Psalm responsively, by whole verse

1. When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.
2. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.
3. Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
4. The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.
5. Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negev.
6. Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.
7. Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Lesson

John 12:1-8

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Anointing at Bethany, by Malcolm Guite

Come close with Mary, Martha, Lazarus,
So close the candles flare with their soft breath,
And kindle heart and soul to flame within us
Lit by these mysteries of life and death.
For beauty now begins the final movement,
In quietness and intimate encounter,
The alabaster jar of precious ointment
Is broken open for the world's true lover.
The whole room richly fills to feast the senses
With all the yearning such a fragrance brings,
The heart is mourning but the spirit dances,
Here at the very centre of all things,
Here at the meeting place of love and loss
We all foresee and see beyond the cross.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you 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.

The Prayers of the People, Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace especially in Russia and Ukraine; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are ill, or in any trouble, need or sorrow, especially those on our parish prayer list, and for any others we might now name, either silently or aloud. (Pause) Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have died, especially our loved ones who have gone before us, and for any others we might now name, either silently or aloud. (Pause) We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Luke's, Wheeling and St. Philip's, Charles Town.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church in Nigeria.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Let us join together in the Prayer for the Transition.

Dear God, we ask for mercy and grace in this journey. We commit to the process of finding a new rector for our parish, and that it will be in your name and to your glory. We ask for insight and self-reflection, that we may know our needs, and that we may properly envision a future together, uplifting all and seeing the incredible ministries that you will share with us. We pray for the members of the Search Committee, the Vestry, and our interim Rector, as well as our bishops and their staff, that all may be blessed and guided in this search process. Open our eyes and our hearts to all possibilities, and lead us with your wisdom. May your glory shine through us in this mission we are undertaking. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Celebrant

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

Silence may be kept

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

Offertory

After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand and sing to the familiar tune of the "Old 100th"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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._____

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

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.*

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Celebrant and People together

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread and says

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

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 Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People

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 Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Should you prefer not to receive the physical elements of the Holy Communion you are invited to read the following in silent prayer as the physical sacrament is being distributed.

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, regardless of age or denomination, are invited and 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 placed the wafer

in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has received communion, the next is free to come to the chancel steps. Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.

Our Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Solemn Prayer over the People and The Blessing

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. Amen. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, forever. Amen

The National Anthem of Ukraine

"The glory and freedom of Ukraine has not yet perished, luck will still smile on us brother-Ukrainians. Our enemies will die, as the dew does in the sunshine, and we, too, brothers, we'll live happily in our land. We'll not spare either our souls or bodies to get freedom and we'll prove that we brothers are of Kozak kin."

The Dismissal

The departing minister then says

Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev. Lou Hays

Preacher

The Rev. Dr. Malcolm Guite

Organist & Choirmaster

Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Acolyte

Becky Kersey

Lector

Rob Merritt

Altar Guild

Linda Ammar and Elizabeth Sudduth

Attendance Last Sunday:

37

Birthdays This Week: Shanley Paine

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, April 6

A Lenten Journey Through Our Faith 7:00pm

Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday 10:00am

Building and Grounds committee meeting after Church

Tuesday, April 12

DOK meeting 10:00am

Wednesday, April 13

Union Mission 3:00pm

Thursday, April 14

Maundy Thursday - Holy Eucharist with music 7:00pm

Friday, April 15

Good Friday - Stations of the Cross 12 noon

Good Friday Service 7:00pm

Sunday, April 17

Easter Day - The Feast of the Resurrection 10:00am

Bagging Groceries after Church

Wednesday, April 20

Vestry Meeting 6:00pm

Thursday, April 21

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am

Wednesday, April 27

Union Mission 4:00pm

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Brian, Lane, Loraine, and Sherry.

Announcements:

A Lenten Journey Through Our Faith: How do I want to spend the rest of my life? What's the point? Where are you, God, and what do you want from me?

COFFEE HOUR IS BACK!!! Coffee hour will resume on Palm Sunday, April 10th with Terry and David as hosts. The vestry will host coffee hour Easter Sunday and volunteers will be needed beginning Sunday, April 17th. Please sign up in the hall outside the library if you wish to host coffee hour. Thank you.

Easter Lilies: A sign-up sheet for those who would like to purchase Easter lilies is available at the Usher's Table in the Narthex. Lilies will be \$15 and may be given in memory or honor of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for a blessing. Please have your donations for the lilies into the office by Sunday, April 10th if at all possible. Thank you!

Parish Life Committee: If you would like to serve on the Parish Life Committee, please sign the sheet in the front hall .

Building and Grounds: There will be a meeting of the Building and Grounds committee on April 10th, after the service, in Rowley Hall. All interested persons are invited to attend. Thank You.



Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Lou Hays
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
Ms. Emma Bennett
Mrs. Vanessa Hall
Mr. David Kersey
Mr. Peter Richardson

Interim Rector
Organist & Choirmaster
Parish Administrator
Sexton
Senior Warden
Junior Warden