



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

November 27, 2022



FIRST SUNDAY

OF

Advent

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

Lo! He comes, with clouds descending

H 58

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.*

Trisagion

Sung three times

S-102

The musical score for the Trisagion consists of two systems of vocal lines. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The first system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,". The second system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with block chords and moving bass lines.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Holy Eucharist, Holy God: Trisagion, #102 from *The Hymnal 1982, Service Music* — Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect for the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'



For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 122

Laetatus sum

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

1. I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."
2. Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3. Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;
4. To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.
5. For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.
6. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.
7. Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.
8. For my brethren and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity.
9. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

The Second Lesson

Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Thy Kingdom come, O God!

H613

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Lou Hays

The Nicene Creed

All stand as they 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 III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Matthew, our Bishop, for Lou our priest, and for all bishops,
priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

In our Diocesan Cycle of prayer, we pray for Transfiguration, Buckhannon, and St. Paul's, Weston

In our Anglican Cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church in Japan.

We pray for all who are on our parish prayer list, and for any others that we might now name, either silently or aloud

Pause

We pray for all who have died, especially our loved ones who have gone before us, and for any others that we might now name, either silently or aloud

Pause

We give thanks for all of the blessings of this life, for our family, friends and loved ones, and for any other thanksgivings we might now name, either silently or aloud.

Pause

Officiant

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin

The celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

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 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.

Announcements

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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

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 encouraged to receive the sacrament. With our return to the common cup, communion is distributed at the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available by asking the priest. If you do not wish to receive the sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please join us at the rail and cross your arms over your chest. Depart through the doors at either side of the rail, returning to your pew through the door into the back of the nave.

Communion Hymn

O heavenly Word, eternal Light vs. 5

H 63

Our Prayer after Communion

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

H 68

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Jim and Susanne Pulse. 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!



Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev. Lou Hays

Organist

Terry Whittington

Acolyte

Becky Kersey

Elizabeth Burton

Lay Eucharist Minister

Becky Beckett

Lector

Don Williams

Altar Guild

Betty Nash, Linda Thomas



The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God
by Stan and Grey Kiser.



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 Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, John Beckett, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi,

Joan, Mike Boosier, and Pam Spracher.

Birthdays This Week: Kiser Grey, Elizabeth Burton, and Rebecca Broyles

Calendar of Events

Saturday – December 3	Bluefield University - <i>Christmas at Bluefield</i> 7:30pm
Wednesday – December 7	Union Mission 4:00pm
Wednesday – December 14	Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
Thursday – December 15	Food Pantry 9 – 11:00am
Tuesday – December 13	DOK Meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – December 21	Union Mission 3:30pm
Saturday – December 24	Christmas Eve Early Service 5:00pm
	Christmas Eve Late Service 11:00pm

Announcements:

Coffee Hour: Please help us continue this important ministry of hospitality by signing up on the white board in the hallway next to the library.

Food Pantry Collection: Our Food Pantry has a tradition of giving hats, scarves, gloves, socks, and blankets to help make winter a little warmer for our friends. A collection bin is in the narthex to begin accepting donations for these items. They can be homemade, purchased, or gently used.

Recycling Program: Christ Church will be starting a recycling program soon. We need volunteers to take the items to a recycling truck at Mitchell Stadium every Thursday from 1-4 pm. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be in the narthex. Thanks for all who volunteer for this program.

Acolytes and Lectors needed: If you would like to participate in this valuable ministry, please contact Rob Merritt, 304-920-860; robmerritt202@gmail.com

DOK Project: The Daughters of the Kings will be working on a new project for The Wade Center. They are currently in need of sweatpants for children that will be used when they have had an accident. A plastic tub is in the narthex to collect the following items: Girls/Boys running pants/sweat pants in children's sizes M(8-10), L(12-14) and XL if you can find them. Thank you for

any contributions you can provide. Please contact Mary Catherine Williams if you have any questions.

Christmas Eve Services: We'll follow our usual custom of having two services on Christmas Eve; one at 5:00pm and one at 11:00pm.

Altar Guild Flower Donation List: We are in the process of updating our list of people who donate flowers on Sunday mornings, so if you want to continue giving flowers, you do not need to do anything. However, if you **(1)** have moved and wish to have your name removed from the list or **(2)** if you are new and would like to begin giving flowers, please send an email to:

Linda Ammar: lwammar1@gmail.com or Chris Justice: cjbasket@aol.com

Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Lou Hays

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mr. David Kersey

Mr. Peter Richardson

Interim Rector

Parish Administrator

Organist & Choirmaster

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



welcomes you