

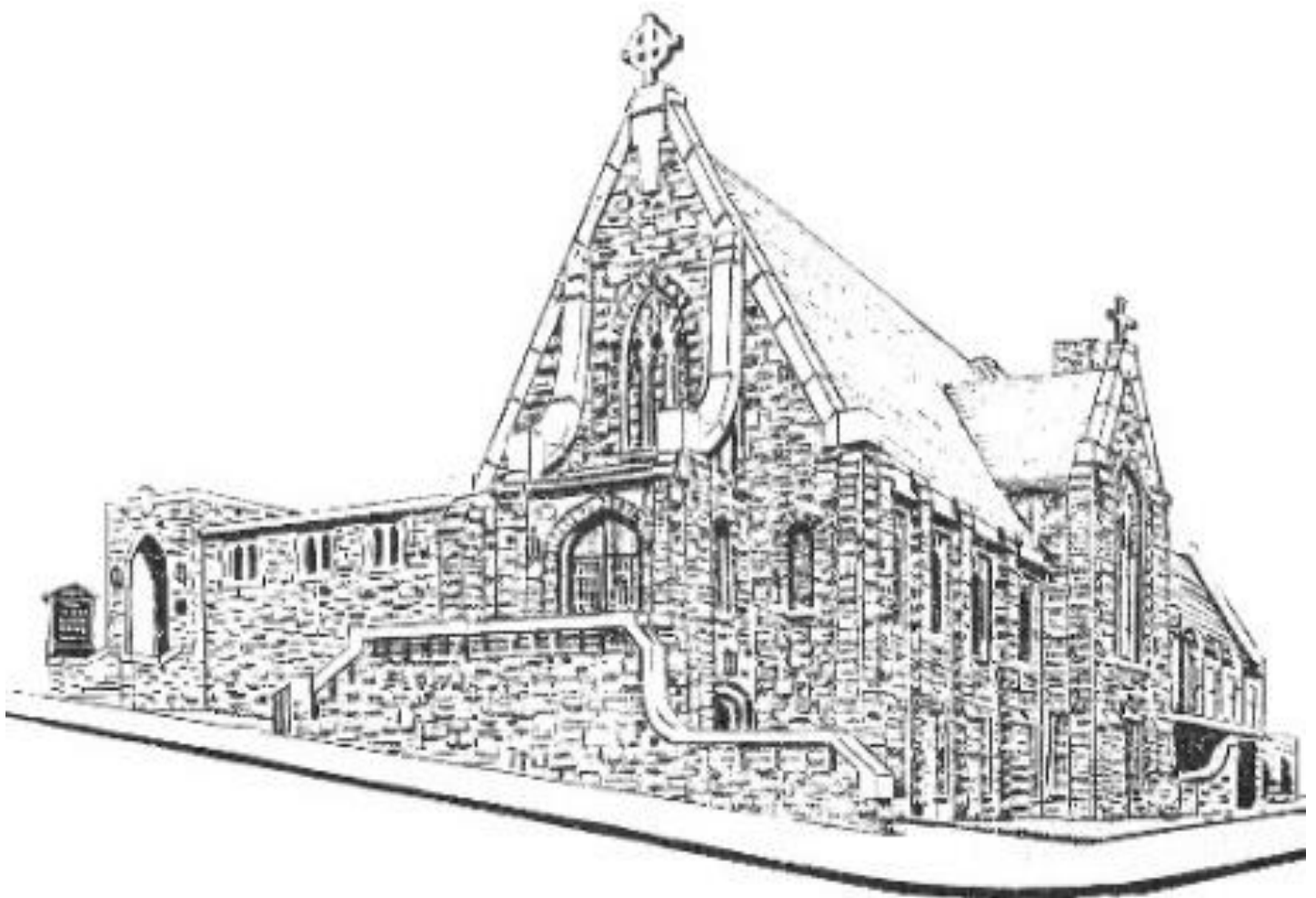


# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 19, 2023



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

[www.christchurchbluefield.org](http://www.christchurchbluefield.org)

## Prelude

### The Processional Hymn

*When morning gilds the skies*

**H427**

*Celebrant* Bless be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. *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 Hymn of Praise

*The Gloria is then sung, all standing*



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



might - y God and Fa-ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



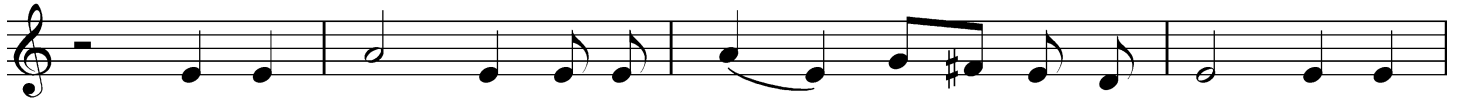
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



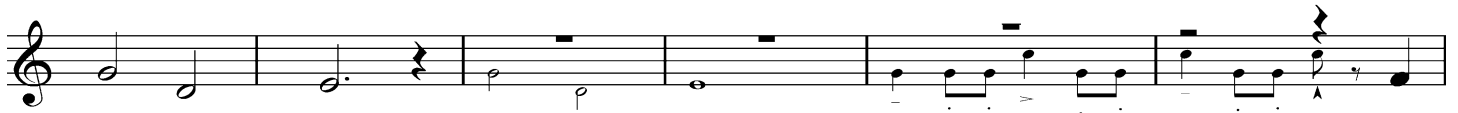
on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -



ceive our prayer.

6. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

### The Collect for the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson

*Exodus 24:12-18*

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

*Lector*                The Word of the Lord.

*People*                Thanks be to God!

### The Psalm

Psalm 2

*Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse*

1. Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
2. Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against his Anointed?
3. "Let us break their yoke," they say; "let us cast off their bonds from us."
4. He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the Lord has them in derision.
5. Then he speaks to them in his wrath, and his rage fills them with terror.
6. "I myself have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion."

7. Let me announce the decree of the Lord: he said to me, "You my Son; this day have I begotten you.
8. Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.
9. You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
10. And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.
11. Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow before him;
12. Lest he be angry and you perish; for his wrath is quickly kindled.
13. Happy are they all who take refuge in him!

The Second Lesson

*2 Peter 1:16-21*

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

*Lector*                The Word of the Lord.

*People*                Thanks be to God!

Hymn

*Christ upon the mountain peak*

**H129**





*The Transfiguration of Christ on Mt. Tabor, by Cherobino Alberti. 1575.*

## The Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 17:1-9*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

The Rev. Paul Barker

## 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 Paul our Pastor, 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 Trinity Church, Huntington; St. Matthias' Church, Grafton.

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*

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *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.

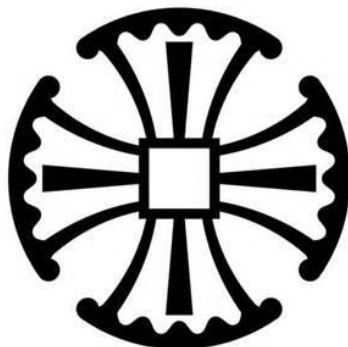
*The Deacon stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy  
Spirit keep us 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

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

**H 7**

*After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand and sing the familiar tune of the "Old 100<sup>th</sup>"*

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.

*People and Deacon*

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 Deacon 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

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 Holy Communion from Reserved 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 wondrous type! O vision fair*

**H137**

## Our Prayer after Communion

*After Communion, the Deacon says*

Let us pray.

*Deacon 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.

Recessional Hymn

*Songs of thankfulness and praise*

**H135**

**The Dismissal**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People Thanks be to God.*

Postlude



Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today by Sheila Brooks and Mary Catherine Williams. 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!



**Birthdays This Week:** Denise Melvin, Jim Pulse, Kathy Huffstetler, Margaret Ann Marra, and Kay Sudduth.

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

**33**

**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:** Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Ted Lewis, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Martin and Ethan, and Jim.

---

The Altar Flowers are given today for the greater Glory of God  
by Tripper and Staci Thomas.

---

### **Participants in Today's Liturgy**

<u>Celebrant</u>	The Rev. Paul Barker
<u>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
Acolytes	Becky Kersey
Lectors	Cameron Clement
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Elizabeth Clement and Patty Richardson

### **Calendar of Events**

Tuesday – February 21	DOK meeting 10:30am Pancake Supper 5:30pm – 7:00pm
Wednesday – February 22	Ash Wednesday services at noon and 7:00pm Union Mission 3:30pm
Thursday – March 2	Noonday Prayer 11:00am – 11:15am Lenten Study 11:15 – 12 noon

### **Announcements:**

Lenten Study: The first Lenten study will be on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> due to Pastor Paul being out of town for a Diocesan Staff meeting. Studies will return to Wednesdays beginning on March 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be using the book, *Living the Way of Love* by Mary Bea Sullivan, for reflection and discussion. There are a few copies left in the narthex hallway table if anyone would like a copy. If we run out, we will order more. Hope to see ya'll then!

Coffee Hour: A Coffee Hour host or hostess is needed for all Sundays in March. Sign up on the white board located outside the Library. Contact

Mary Catherine Williams (276-326-2411) or [mkw@dlwco.com](mailto:mkw@dlwco.com)) if you have any questions. Thank you for helping Christ Church in this important ministry.

Food Pantry Collection: The Food Pantry is still collecting hats, scarves, gloves, socks, and blankets for our Food Pantry friends. A plastic tub is located in the narthex for these items.

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.

DOK Project: The Daughters of the King is still collecting sweatpants for the children at The Wade Center. Plastic tubs are located in the narthex for these items. Sizes needed are M (8-10), L (12-14) and XL. We thank you for donating these items. Please contact Mary Catherine Williams if you have any questions.

Altar Guild Flower Donation List: The following dates are available in 2023 to donate altar flowers – October 29<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup>. If you interested, please contact Linda Ammar: [lwammar1@gmail.com](mailto:lwammar1@gmail.com) .

Pledge Envelopes: Please pick up your pledge payment envelopes, which are located on the table in the narthex.

Fellowship Home: If you are interested in helping prepare dinner for the Fellowship Home please sign the sheet in the Narthex. Thank you!

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

The Rev. Paul Barker

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mr. David Kersey

Mr. Peter Richardson

Pastor

Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

