



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

*The
Season
of
Lent*



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org

Prelude

The Processional Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

H690

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless be Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures 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 people standing.

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #90 The Holy Eucharist I, Lord have mercy upon us: *Kyrie*

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 for the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

The people sit.

The First Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin, the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but



there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you

struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The Psalm

Psalm 95

Venite, exultemus

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

1. Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
2. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
3. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
4. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also.
5. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.
6. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
8. Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.
9. They put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
10. Forty years long I detested that generation and said, "This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."
11. So, I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter into my rest."

The Second Lesson

Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering

produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The people standing.

Hymn

Rock of Ages, cleft for me

H685

The Gospel Lesson

John 4:5-26

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given

you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”



Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said

to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

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 and say together:

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

The people may stand or kneel.

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 The Sandscrest Conference and Retreat Center.

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

The Celebrant and people say:

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.

The people may greet one another with a sign of God's love.

Announcements

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory

O love that casts out fear

H700

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

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. Communion is distributed at the altar rail. 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 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

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

H343

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.

The Deacon says a statement of hope.

Recessional Hymn

Come, thou fount of every blessing

H686

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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, Art Mead, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad,

Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Martin and Ethan, and Jim.

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted today Stan and Grey Kiser. 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

<u>Celebrant</u>	The Rev. Paul Barker
<u>Organist & Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolytes</u>	Rob Merritt
<u>Lectors</u>	Don Williams
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Elizabeth Clement and Betty Nash

Calendar of Events

Wednesday – March 15	Noonday Prayer 11:00am – 11:15am Lenten Study 11:15 – 12 noon Men's Dinner 6:00pm Vestry meeting 7:00pm
Thursday – March 16	Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am
Tuesday – March 21	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – March 22	Noonday Prayer 11:00am – 11:15am Lenten Study 11:15 – 12 noon Union Mission 3:30pm
Wednesday – March 29	Noonday Prayer 11:00am – 11:15am Lenten Study 11:15 – 12 noon

Birthdays This Week Jessica Cole, Peter Taylor, and Frankie Wilkinson.

Attendance Last Sunday: 40

Announcements:

Lenten Study: The Lenten study will continue on Wednesdays mornings, following noonday prayer at 11:00am. We are using the book, *Living the Way of Love* by Mary Bea Sullivan, for reflection and discussion. We should have a few more available copies on the narthex hallway table if anyone would like a copy. Hope to see ya'll then!

Community Engagement Opportunity: The Host of The HopeWords Writers' Conference taking place on March 24-25 here in Bluefield, have asked us to prepare several desserts for their evening social event on Friday, March 24th. A sign-up sheet for volunteer "bakers" will be in the narthex.

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 \$20 each and may be given in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please turn in payment by April 2nd and be sure to note method of payment on sheet.

Coffee Hour: A Coffee Hour host or hostess is needed for **April 16, 23, and 30th**. Sign up on the white board located outside the Library. Contact Mary Catherine Williams (276-326-2411) or mkw@dlwco.com if you have any questions. Thank you for helping Christ Church in this important ministry.

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.

Altar Guild Flower Donation List: The following dates are available in 2023 to donate altar flowers – **October 29th**. If you interested, please contact Linda Ammar: lwammar1@gmail.com .

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

Parish Life: There is a signup sheet in the Narthex for Parish Life. If you want to be a part of this very important ministry at our church,

consider signing up. You can contact Mary Catherine Williams at mkw@dlwco.com or 276-326-2411 with any questions.

Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Paul Barker

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mrs. Becky Beckett

Mr. Peter Richardson

Pastor
Organist & Choirmaster
Parish Administrator
Sexton
Senior Warden
Junior Warden

