

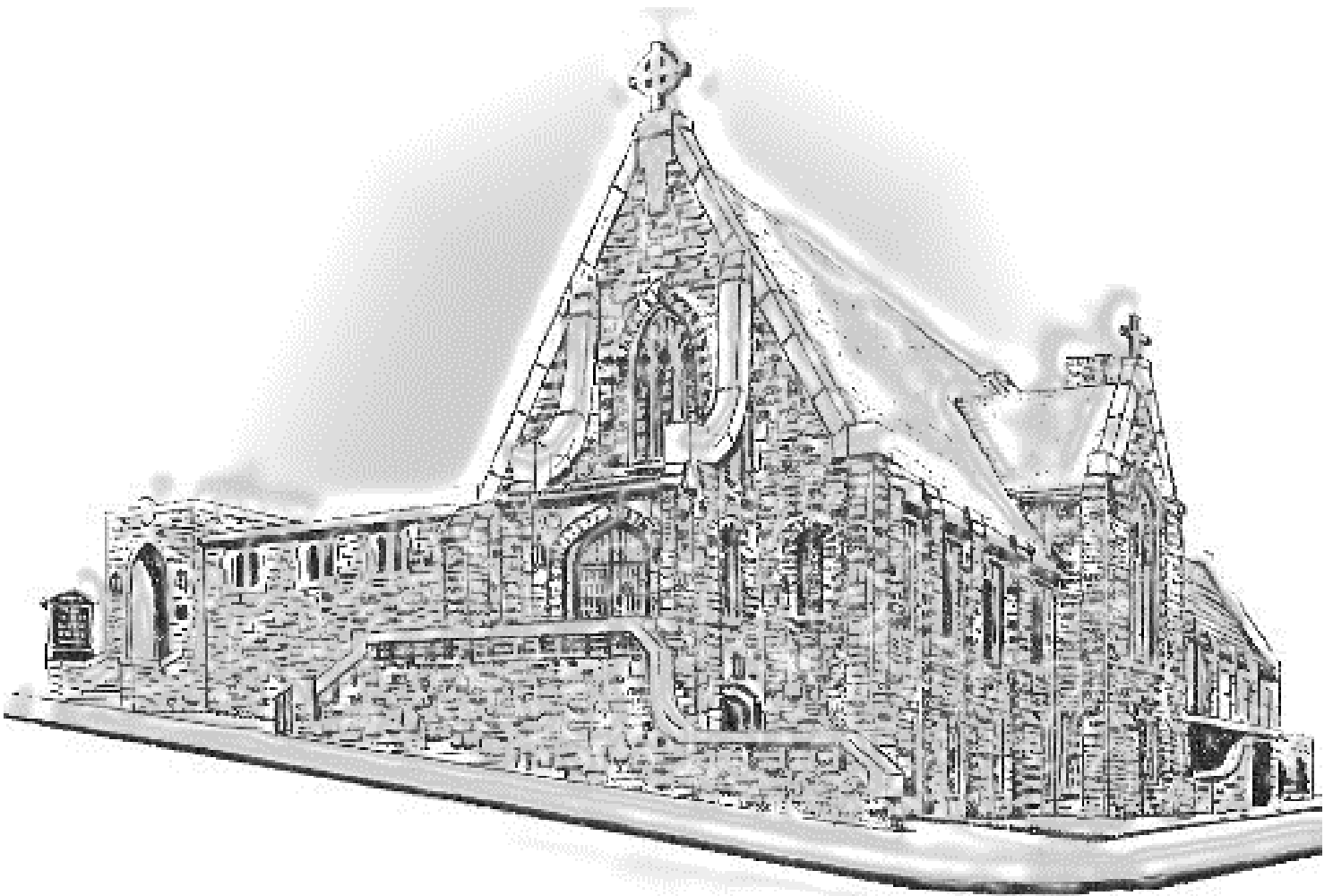


# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

## The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 3, 2023



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

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

## Prelude

*The people stand*

The Processional Hymn      *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

**H 450**

## Welcome!

*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 people remain standing.*

Hymn of Praise      *Fairest Lord Jesus*

**H 383**

## The Collect for the Day

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      And also with you.

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 3:1-15*

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight,



and see why the bush is not burned up.” When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall



suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

*Lector*                   The Word of the Lord.

*People*                    Thanks be to God!

*The people standing.*

Hymn

*At the Name of Jesus*

**H 435**

The Gospel Lesson

*Matthew 16:21-28*

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

*People*       Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

The Rev. Paul Barker

## The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

*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**

BCP 387

*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 Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Matthew, our Bishop, for Paul  
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 all clergy of the Diocese.

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**

BCP 360

*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 Celebrant 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.

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

## **Announcements**

## **The Holy Communion**

Offertory Hymn

What wondrous love is this

**H 439**

*After the Offertory piece has been played the People stand as the gifts are brought forward 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.

## **Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

*The people remain standing.*

*The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

*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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #130*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The piano accompaniment features chords and some melodic lines, with some notes beamed together. The vocal line is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy

to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.*

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

*People and Celebrant*

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*

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. Take them in remembrance that  
Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### The Distribution of the Holy 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 by the reader's lectern.

### 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:*

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.

### Communion Hymn

*Take my life, and let it be*

**H 707**

### Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 365

*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

**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 Mary Catherine Williams. This is a time for us to have fellowship, share our joys, learn ways we can pray for each other, and get to know one another better. It is very much an extension of the communal feast we share in the Holy Eucharist. Please join us!

**Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:** Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob and Peggy Walk, Martha Linkous, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Jim and Chris Justice, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Russ and Debbie Hatfield, Mary Lou, Brian, Don Harris, Ted Lewis, Brian, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Martin and Ethan, Jim, Joan Gray, Rosemary, Eddie Hughes, Doug Truter, Jenessa, Ameiah, and Beth Kane.

The Altar Flowers are given for the greater Glory of God and in memory of loved ones today by Richard and Carolyn McCue Matthews.

**Attendance Last Sunday:**

**47**

**Participants in Today's Liturgy**

<u>Celebrant</u>	The Rev. Paul Barker
<u>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolyte</u>	Mike Lilly
<u>Lector</u>	Don Williams
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Linda Ammar, Becky Beckett, Patty Richardson,

## Calendar of Events

Sunday – September 10	First Children’s Sunday School 10:00am
Wednesday – September 13	Union Mission 4:00pm
Sunday – September 17	First Christ Church 101 Class 11:15am
Tuesday – September 19	DOK meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – September 20	Men’s Dinner 6:00pm
	Vestry meeting 7:00pm
Thursday – September 21	Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00am
Wednesday - September 27	Union Mission 3:30pm

**Birthdays this week:** Bill Wimmer, Terry Whittington, and Mark Van Dyke.

## Announcements:

**Coffee Hour:** A Coffee Hour host will be needed for **September 24**. 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.

**ECW Indoor Yard Sale:** Save the date and save your stuff! On **Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>** the ECW will be having an Indoor Yard Sale in Rowley Hall from 8:00am to 1:00pm. You may bring your items now and leave them in the last classroom in the Children’s Chapel.

## Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Paul Barker	Priest
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.	Organist & Choirmaster
Ms. Emma Bennett	Parish Administrator
Mrs. Vanessa Hall	Sexton
Mrs. Becky Beckett	Senior Warden
Mr. Peter Richardson	Junior Warden