



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist

May 17, 2026



200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701
(304) 327-6861
www.cecblf.org

Prelude

The people stand

The Processional Hymn *All hail the power of Jesus' name!*

H 450

Welcome!

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

BCP 355

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

Jesus lives! thy terrors now

H 195

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people remain standing.

Collect for the Day

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The people sit.

The First Lesson

Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The Psalm

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Exsurgat Deus

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.

1. Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.
2. Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of
God.
3. But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.
4. Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!

5. Father of orphans, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation!
6. God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
7. O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
8. The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
9. You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
10. Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
33. Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.
34. He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
35. Ascribe power to God; his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.
36. How wonderful is God in his holy places!
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

Second Lesson

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are

undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

The people standing.

Hymn

The head that once was crowned with thorns

H 483

The Gospel Lesson

John 17:1-11

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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 Sean, 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 Ascension, Hinton.

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

BCP 360

Let us confess our sins before God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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.

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



Announcements:

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

H 482

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

The people remain standing

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #130

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

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two flats. The melody is primarily composed of chords, with some single notes in the treble clef. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and".

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

The second system continues the melody. It includes a long note in the treble clef with a slur over it, corresponding to the word "might,". The lyrics are: "might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,".

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

The third system continues the melody. It includes a long note in the treble clef with a slur over it, corresponding to the word "might,". The lyrics are: "God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are".

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The fourth system continues the melody. It includes a long note in the treble clef with a slur over it, corresponding to the word "full,". The lyrics are: "full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -".

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

The fifth system concludes the hymn. The melody continues with chords and single notes. The lyrics are: "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

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.*

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.

Communion Hymn *Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pay* **H** **315**

Our Prayer after Communion

BCP 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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 Blessing

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob Walk, Martha Linkous, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Fr. Russ and Debbie Hatfield, Mary Lou, Don Harris, The Beckett Family, The Paine Family, Dee Puckett, Becky Steorts, Kathy Burge, Kaye, David Lindahl, Brandon Green, Haley and Alex Jusiel, Carolyn Ratcliffe, Felicia, Brad, Jerry and Debbie Hickman, Fran Alba, Rob Roush, Mya, Frederick Williams, George, Mark, Sandra, Dick, Betty Carol, Jim Crosby, Tim and Angel Bailey



Following our service, we will have Coffee Hour hosted by Chuck and Nancy Stark. With petals opening and color returning to the world, we are grateful to welcome you to join with us in fellowship, prayer, joy, and community.



Birthdays this week: Patricia Taylor



The Altar Flowers are given today for the glory of God by
Delia Kersey



Attendance Last Sunday:

71

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Celebrant

Deacon

Organist

Acolyte

Lector

Altar Guild

The Rev. Paul Barker

The Rev. Brother Ray Escott

Hon. Canon Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Mike Lilly

Jerry Wood

Betty Nash and Teresa Paine

Calendar of Events

Tuesday – May 19

Wednesday – May 20

Thursday – May 21

Sunday, May 24

DOK meeting 10:30 a.m.

Vestry meeting 5:00 p.m.

Men's Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Day of Pentecost

Monday – May 25

Memorial Day



Wednesday – May 27

Union Mission 3:30 p.m.

Evening Prayer with Hand Chime Choir 6:00 p.m.

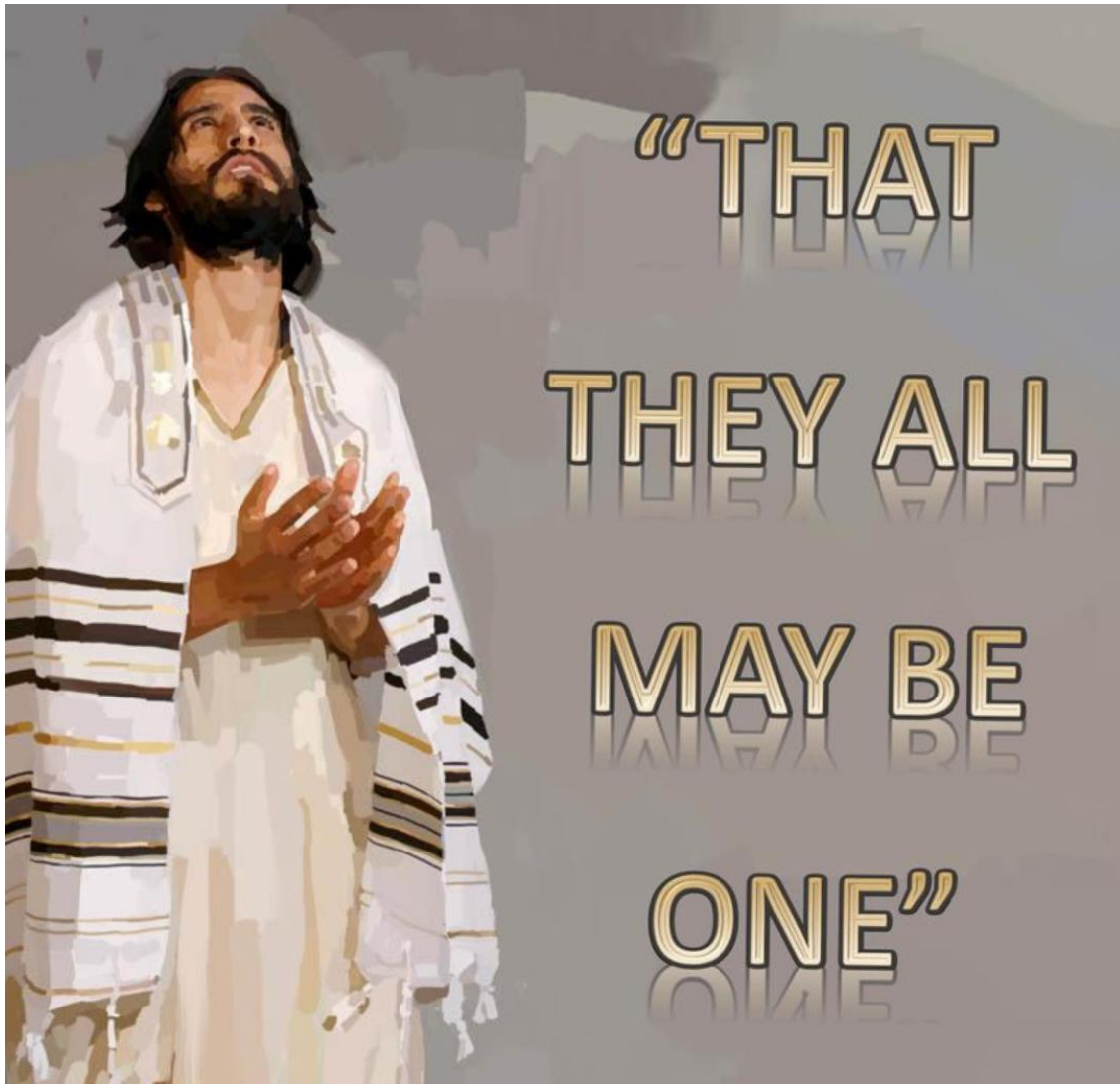
Announcements:

Spring Collection for Food Pantry Recipients: Our Food Pantry will be collecting cleaning supplies including dish-washing liquid during May.

Coffee Hour: A Coffee Hour host is needed for **May 31**. Please sign up on the whiteboard located outside the library. If you have any questions, you may contact: Darla Olson at: 304-634-5655 darlanolson@outlook.com or Mary Catherine Williams at: 276-326-2411 mkw@dlwco.com. Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry at Christ Church.

Altar Guild Members: Please don't forget to sign up for the week(s) you will be available to serve for the months of June, July, and August.

Stained Glass Ornaments order forms: Stained Glass Ornaments order forms are on the ushers' table. If you have any questions, please see Mary Catherine Williams or Patty Richardson.



Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

The Rev. Paul Barker

The Rev. Brother Ray Escott

Hon. Canon Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Susanne Pulse

Ms. Gina Vescio

Dr. Ted Lewis

Mr. David Kersey

Rector

Deacon

Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Office Assistant

Sexton

Senior Warden

Interim Junior Warden