

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A Home to All

Sharing God's Unconditional Love



The Day of Pentecost **May 20, 2018 – 10:30 AM** **Celebrating 20 years!**

The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin
Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker
Rector

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

We are delighted God has brought you to this special place. Our tradition is to invite newcomers to introduce themselves during the announcements, if they would like. Following the service, the ushers have guest cards which we hope you will fill out, so we can personally welcome you to the church community. Everyone is invited for refreshments and fellowship in the parish hall afterwards.

What do you need to know about worship? Everything you need for your worship today is in the booklet you are holding. Our service is based on the Book of Common Prayer, using music from sources including the Hymnal 1982 and Taizé.

Are you worshipping with us for the first time? We would love to get to know you! Please fill out one of the pew cards tucked into the pew in front of you. Let us know if we can call you, answer questions, or pray for you. And know that wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Church.

Home communion visits: Do you know someone who isn't able to get to church, but would like a home communion visit? Please call the church office at 336.372.7983 to arrange a visit.

Please wear a name tag. No permanent one? Please use the temporary adhesive name tags found in the church entryway. We're happy to make you a new nametag, a replacement, or simply a spare. For permanent name tags, sign up on the clipboard in the entryway.

Newsletter: Sign up today to receive our electronic newsletter, the weekly *Good News & Notes*. Email the church office at ccepisopal@skybest.com.

Sermons Available: Recent sermons available at www.christchurchallegghany.com.

Adult Formation at Christ Church includes an Adult Forum series Sunday mornings at 9:15 am in the fellowship hall downstairs.

We extend special thanks today to the following people:

Betty Upchurch, for serving as musician and for being so generous with her talents,

Jeanne Green, for providing the altar flowers in memory of her husband, Walton Green and her father, William Reindollar, and

Sheila Pfaender, for providing refreshments for our fellowship after the service.

The Gathering

Prelude

Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart

All stand, as able.

Processional Hymn #556 (vss 1-3)

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!

Opening Acclamation

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Presider Let us pray (*prayed by all*)

BCP 355

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.

Gloria: S280 (*sung by all*)

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

Remain standing, as able.

The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 104: 25-35, 37

O Lord, how manifold are your works! *
 in wisdom you have made them all;
 the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number, *
 creatures both small and great.

There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan, *
 which you have made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you *
 to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it; *
 you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
 you take away their breath,
 and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
 and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; *
 may the Lord rejoice in all his works.

He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
 he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.
May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the Lord.
Bless the Lord, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!

The Second Reading

Acts 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

 ' In the last days it will be, God declares,
 that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
 and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
 and your young men shall see visions,
 and your old men shall dream dreams.
 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
 in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
 and they shall prophesy.
 And I will show portents in the heaven above
 and signs on the earth below,
 blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
 The sun shall be turned to darkness
 and the moon to blood,
 before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.
 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as able.

Gospel Hymn #657

Love divine, all loves excelling

Remain standing, as you are able, for the Gospel.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel

John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

All are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Martha Honaker

A time of silence following the sermon.

1. I be - lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that
 2. I be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci -
 3. I be - lieve in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints with-

be, Mak - er of the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of the sky and
 fied; tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied— True Life there had tru - ly
 in One church, cath - o - lic and ho - ly, where for - give - ness frees from

sea. I be - lieve in God's Son, Je - sus, now for
 died. I be - lieve that on the third day Christ was
 sin; in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the

us both Lord and Christ, of the Spir - it and of
 raised up from the grave, then as - cend - ed to God
 break - ing of death's chain gives the life that's ev - er -

Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.
 right hand. He will come to judge and save.
 last - ing. This the faith that I have claimed.

Renewal of Baptism Covenant

Renewal of Baptismal Covenant Prayers

- Presider Let us now pray for all as we prepare to renew our Baptismal Covenant.
- Leader Deliver us, O Lord, from the ways we fall short of God's hope for the human family.
People **May we follow Jesus into wholeness.**
- Leader Open our hearts to your grace and truth.
People **May we see Christ in all people.**
- Leader Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **May we be co-creator's with you in your world.**
- Leader Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **May we live our faith in the world and in our places of worship.**
- Leader Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Inspire us to greater joy.**
- Leader Send us into the world in witness to your love.
People **Make us instruments of your hope and truth.**
- Leader Bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **May we love others as you love us.**
- Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others...
- Presider May all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

All stand, as able, and gather around the Baptism Font.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Rev. Martha Honaker

- Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
- Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, pg. 292

Presider Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment of Jesus Christ?
People **I do.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?
People **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread,
and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to
the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection by being an Easter people; people who claim new life out of every death and new hope out of every defeat. We pray as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Chrism

*As we renew our Baptism, we remember we are marked as Christ's own forever.
Please come to Martha to receive Chrism.*

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in a way that is comfortable as a sign of our participation in Christ's reconciling work in the world.

Offertory Spirit Song Betty Upchurch

Please stand, as able.

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

The Great Thanksgiving

Remain standing, as able.

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down on this day from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

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:

Sanctus: S129 (*sung by all*)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Remain standing or kneel here for prayer of consecration.

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

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 pray,

**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.**

Fraction: S154 (*sung by all*)

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.....

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.

If you are gluten allergic, please ask for a rice wafer at the distribution.

Communion Music

Betty Upchurch

Surely the Presence of the Lord

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,

I can feel His mighty power and His grace,

I can hear the brush of angels' wings,

I see glory on each face.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Stand or kneel, as able.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Presider Let us pray

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

Presider May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All **AMEN!**

Stand, as able.

Recessional Hymn #412 (vss 1-3, 6)

Earth and all stars

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Coming Lessons

Isaiah 6: 1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8: 12-17

John 3: 1-17

Prayer List

Intercessions: Ben, Daniel, Ed & Jean, Fred P., Gina D., Julie O., Kelly and comfort for her family, Laura D., Leia B., Linda, Lisa & Mark and their family, Nathan, and Rod & Louise

Departed: Carolina Lea (Judy Ritchie's stepmother), Felbert Thompson (Shelley Jones' father), Kelly

Birthdays:

Wedding Anniversaries: Frank & Ann Hazard (May 22)

The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Bruce Smith	Bruce Smith
Chalicer I	Frances Buckle	Jeanne Green
Chalicer II	Jann Boggs	Sheila Pfaender
Crucifer	Bruce Smith	Ann Hazard
Lector I	Travis Campbell	Ann Hazard
Lector II	Melora Campbell	Frank Hazard
Prayers of the People	Jann Boggs	Frances Buckle
Oblations Bearers	Melora & Travis Campbell	Willie & Eleanor Plummer
Greeters/Ushers	Allan Joyce & Gary Medley	Bruce Smith
Book Bearer	Jann Boggs	Sheila Pfaender
Sanctus Bell	Bruce Smith	Ann Hazard

Schedule

Sunday, May 20 – The Day of Pentecost

No Adult Forum today

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, May 23 – No 10:00 am service

Thursday, May 24

11:10 am – Ladies' Lunch Out attendees meet at the church to carpool to lunch

Sunday, May 27 – Trinity Sunday

9:15 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm – Mountain Soul presents Glen Shelton & Band

Monday, May 28 – Memorial Day holiday

The church office will be closed.

Announcements

Adult Forum: Theology Stew – Resumes Sunday, May 27th.

REMINDER: Rev. Stephanie is at a continuing education conference this week, returning for services next week. There will be no Wednesday morning service this week.

Ladies' Lunch Out

Ladies' Lunch Out will be at the Roaring River Winery on **Thursday, May 24**. Barbara Halsey will be hosting and suggests those interested **meet at the church no later than 11:10 am** so you can carpool to lunch. The sign-up sheet is on the Information table. If you have questions, feel free to contact Barbara at harmonyhill.halsey@gmail.com or 336.372.6868.

Mountain Soul presents Glen Shelton & Band next Sunday, May 27th at 6:00 pm. Glen will be playing a Memorial Day Tribute. For more details, check out the *Good News & Notes*. We hope you'll join us!

Bible Study of the Gospel of John

A study of the Gospel of John continues every other week at 6:00 pm at the Seckel Barn, 404 Vestal Road, Sparta. The Rev. Martha Honaker is leading the study. Our next gathering will be **Thursday, May 31st**. Please join us!

Parish Picnic - Sunday, June 10th

Mark your calendars and save this date to attend our annual Parish Picnic! Once again this will be a pot-luck luncheon so please start thinking about what you would like to bring. More information will follow in next week's bulletin and the *Good News and Notes*.

Food & Fellowship Person of the Month for May is: Deb Donaldson. She can be reached at sld1400@aol.com or 336-372-7573.

Vestry Person of the month for May is: Phil Donaldson. He can be reached at sld1400@aol.com or 336.372.7573.

You may reach Rev. Stephanie at: revsteph@skybest.com

For any building or property issues, please contact: Phil Donaldson with your concerns

Save-the-Date:
Our Annual Parish Picnic is
scheduled for
Sunday, June 10th at 11:00 am!



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Cover art: Pentecost – by Veronica Dimae

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Prayers of the People adapted from Intercession for God's People. Gail Runshaw.