

# Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

*A Home to All*

*Sharing God's Unconditional Love*



***CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!***

**Our 20/20 Celebration  
June 24, 2018 – 10:30 AM**

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 [ccepiscopal@skybest.com](mailto:ccepiscopal@skybest.com).

**Sermons Available:** Recent sermons available at [www.christchurchallegghany.com](http://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 person:**

Jo Ellen Carson, for serving as musicians and for being so generous with her talents.

# The Gathering

Prelude

*All stand, as able.*

Processional Hymn #8

*Morning has broken*

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed by God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## **Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading**

**1 Samuel 17: 57-18: 5, 10-16**

On David's return from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with the head of the Philistine in his hand. Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" And David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt. David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him; as a result, Saul set him over the army. And all the people, even the servants of Saul, approved.

The next day an evil spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand; and Saul threw the spear, for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David eluded him twice.

Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him but had departed from Saul. So Saul removed him from his presence, and made him a commander of a thousand; and David marched out and came in, leading the army. David had success in all his undertakings; for the Lord was with him. When Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in awe of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David; for it was he who marched out and came in leading them.

Reader            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People            Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

## The Response

### Psalm 133

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when brethren live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,

Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

## The Second Reading

### 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see~ we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return~ I speak as to children~ open wide your hearts also.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as able.*

**Gospel Hymn #608**

*Eternal Father, strong to save*

*Remain standing, as able.*

Presider            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

People             **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Gospel**

**Mark 4: 35-41**

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Presider            The Gospel of the Lord.

People             **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*All are seated.*

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker

*A time of silence following the sermon.*

*Please stand, as able.*

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.

## Prayers of the People

- Leader: Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, we pray with one heart and mind to our God, saying:
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Leader: We pray that the love that flows endlessly between the Father and the Son in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit may renew and deepen the lives of all who follow Jesus and draw the human family all together into your eternal dance;
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Leader: We pray for the leaders of the Church, and for the leaders of nations, that we, with them, may discern the ways to overcome divisions and mistrust, that all may reflect your unity in every aspect of our common lives.
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Leader: We pray that your Abundant Life, seen clearly in the life of Jesus, may endure and flourish as the Holy Spirit enlightens us to a greater understanding of you, ourselves, and all others with whom we share our planet.
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Leader: We pray for our families, our communal life and our wider communities, that they may be places of communion and mutual support, which builds us up and strengthens us with your grace and truth. We pray especially for... We give thanks for the gift of community.
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Leader: We thank you for our natural world, which you so lovingly created and call us to redeem; help us be wise, careful, and loving caregivers of your creation.
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Leader: In the power of your Spirit who joins our prayer to Christ's eternal intercession, we pray for the sick, the suffering, those who have died, and all who stand in need, especially...For healing for all the world we pray,
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the earth.**
- Leader: In an endless outpouring of thanksgiving for your ceaseless joy, we give thanks for... that we may always rejoice in the power of your love.
- People: **Holy Spirit, you renew the face of the Earth.**
- Stephanie: Gracious God, whom Jesus taught us to call Abba, Father, by the inner workings of your Spirit, help us to embrace your grace to deepen our communion with you, give us courage to more and more be signs of your enduring love. This we pray through Jesus Christ, who lives and works with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider 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

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

Jo Ellen Carson

### 20/20 Celebration Prayer

Loving God, we thank you for the rich abundance in our lives and that through twenty years of mission and ministry we can, in turn, offer that abundant blessing to others. We thank you for hearts that are open to feel the powerful generosity of your Spirit and for the dream of the next twenty years. Continue, we pray, to open our ears to hear the needs of this parish and our community. Open our minds that, whenever called, we offer the world our measureless love, our generous time, and our unique talents and treasure. Thank you for quickening our hands to your service, breathing your Spirit into us and for touching us with the life of Christ. Amen.

# The Great Thanksgiving

*Standing, as able.*

Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP 369

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.**

Presider God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**

**By his wounds, we are healed.**

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus: S129 (*sung by all*)

BCP 362

*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.*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People**            **We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebekah and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**People**            **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priests, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**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.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

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 (sung by all)

Jo Ellen Carson

Hymn #654

*Day by day*

*Day by day, dear Lord,  
of thee three things I pray:  
to see thee more clearly,  
love thee more dearly,  
follow thee more nearly,  
day by day.*

Hymn #508

*Breathe on me, Breath of God*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what thou dost love  
And do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with thee I will one will  
To do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Till I am wholly thine,  
Till all this earthly part of me  
Glows with thy fire divine.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
So shall I never die,  
But live with thee the perfect life  
Of thine eternity. Amen.*

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 sit, 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.

Please stand, as able.

### The Blessing

Presider Almighty God, may the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, through your grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of compassionate living, to the honor and praise of your Name. May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you this day and remain with you always. Amen.

### Recessional Hymn #686

*Come, thou fount of every blessing*

### 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!

### Coming Lessons

1 Samuel 1: 1, 17-27  
Psalm 130  
2 Corinthians 8: 7-15  
Mark 5: 21-43

## The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Marybeth Lentz	Nancy Wilson
Chalicerist I	Frances Buckle	Nancy Wilson
Chalicerist II	Shelley Jones	Bruce Smith
Crucifer	Kimberly Jones	Ann Hazard
Lector I	Frances Buckle	Ann Hazard
Lector II	Allan Joyce	Frank Hazard
Prayers of the People	Frances Buckle	Bruce Smith
Oblations Bearers	Denise & Larry Seckel	Sheila Pfaender & Frank Hazard
Greeters/Ushers	Joe & Judy Ritchie	Jann Boggs
Book Bearer	Shelley Jones	Bruce Smith
Sanctus Bell	Kimberly Jones	Ann Hazard

## Prayer List

**Intercessions:** Ben, Denise H., Ed & Jean, Fred P., Jessica, Julie O., Laura D., Lisa D., Mark & Julee W., Martha H., and Ray V.

**Birthdays:** Jim Halsey (June 26), Cathy Williams (June 30)

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Jim & Barbara Halsey (June 26)

## Schedule

**Sunday, June 24 – Our 20/20 Celebration!**

9:15 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm – Mountain Soul presents Jewell’s Harp

**Wednesday, June 27**

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

**Thursday, June 28**

6:00 pm – Bible Study at the Seckel Barn

**Saturday, June 30**

5:00 pm – Newcomers' Gathering at the Seckel Barn, 404 Vestal Rd.

**Sunday, July 1 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

## Announcements

**Adult Forum: Saving Jesus**

Adult Forum is on hiatus during July. Adult Forum will resume on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Wednesday Morning Services**

Wednesday morning services are on hiatus for the month of July. Services will resume on Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**20/20 Challenge!**

A big "THANK YOU" for your rapid and generous response thus far to our 20/20 Challenge! To date we have received \$17,700 in pledges and \$16,500 in actual donations, and we're looking forward to seeing that total rise! We are very thankful for your generosity and we are excited that, as you always do, you are meeting the promise to help us look forward to another twenty years and more.

**Mountain Soul presents Jewell's Harp TONIGHT, Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm!**

Jewell's Harp is a NC band that plays a wide range of music. For more information about the band, check out the *Good News & Notes*. We hope to see you there!

**SAVE THE DATE: You're Invited to a "Newcomer" Gathering THIS Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>!**

We are blessed to have new worshippers join us on a regular basis, and we want to welcome you and give you a chance to ask any questions you have as well as gather for a great meal and have an opportunity to get to know more about life and ministry at Christ Church.

"Newcomer" is in parentheses because some of you have been here for a while, but we have not yet had the opportunity to celebrate you. So, if you have joined us and not yet been to such an event, you are invited! Even if you have been worshipping with us since Stephanie's arrival, you are invited!

The event will be at the Seckel's barn on 404 Vestal Rd., off the parkway. We will gather at 5:00 pm and enjoy a time of joyful fellowship and orientation.

Please RSVP by calling or emailing the church office or contact Nancy Wilson at 336.528.2729 or [nancy.dexter@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.dexter@gmail.com).

*Your Parish Growth Ministry Team*

## **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 **THIS Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>**. Please join us!

**Food & Fellowship Person of the Month for June is:** Eleanor Plummer. She can be reached at [shpd311@skybest.com](mailto:shpd311@skybest.com) or 336-372-7214.

**Vestry Person of the month for June is:** Frank Hazard. He can be reached at [frankhazard01@gmail.com](mailto:frankhazard01@gmail.com) or 336-372-8808.

You may reach Rev. Stephanie at: [revsteph@skybest.com](mailto:revsteph@skybest.com)

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

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

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