

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A Home to All

Sharing God's Unconditional Love



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 5, 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 ccepiscopal@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:

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

Sheila Pfaender, for providing the flowers for the altar in loving memory of her mother, Ruth Albrant Schwartz, and

Sally Williamson, for providing refreshments for our fellowship after the service.

The Gathering

Prelude

All stand, as able.

Processional Hymn #690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Opening Acclamation

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

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; 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

2 Samuel 11: 26-12: 13a

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare, and drink from his cup, and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb, and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight?"

You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this very sun. For you did it secretly; but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.” David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

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

Please be seated.

The Response **Psalm 51: 1-13**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.



The Second Reading

Ephesians 4: 1-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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

Please stand, as able.

Gospel Hymn #470

There's a wideness in God's mercy

Remain standing, as able.

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

The Gospel
John 6: 24-35

The next day, when the people who remained after the feeding of the five thousand saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

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.

The Nicene Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

Form III (adapted)

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Holy God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; especially

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.
We pray especially for ... and also all who suffer in silence.
People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader We give you thanks for ...; and all the blessings of this life.
People **That all may share in your joy.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy, and for those who have
died...may they rest in peace and rise in glory.
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others; *the people may add their own petitions.*

Silence

Presider:

All: 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.

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

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.

Proper preface said here.

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.**

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

The Servant Song

*1. Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I might have the grace
to let you be my servant too.*

*2. We are pilgrims on the journey,
We are brothers on the road,
We are here to help each other,
Walk the mile and bear the load.*

*3. I will hold the Christ light for you
in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.*

*4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.*

*5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony.
Born to all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.*

Spirit of the Living God

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

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

Recessional Hymn #688

A mighty fortress is our God

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Coming Lessons

2 Samuel 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalm 130

Ephesians 4: 25 - 5: 2

John 6: 35, 41-51

Prayer List

Intercessions: Ben, Ed & Jean, Fred P., Gina D., Jann B., Julie O., Mark & Julee W., Martha H., Suzanne & Lance B., and Virginia R.

Departed:

Birthdays: Shelley Jones (August 12)

Wedding Anniversaries:

The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Jeanne Green	Jeanne Green
Chalicer I	Jeanne Green	Brenda Weems
Chalicer II	Ann Hazard	Frances Buckle
Crucifer	Linda Williams	Jeanne Green
Lector I	Linda Williams	Louise Law
Lector II	Jess Williams	Phil Donaldson
Prayers of the People	Linda Williams	Tricia Whitman
Oblations Bearers	Phil & Deb Donaldson	Jann Boggs & Marybeth Lentz
Greeters/Ushers	Shelley & Geoff Jones	Hal & Nancy Wilson
Book Bearer	Ann Hazard	Frances Buckle
Sanctus Bell	Linda Williams	Jeanne Green

Schedule

Sunday, August 5 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:15 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, August 7

1:00 pm – Finance Committee meeting

Wednesday, August 8

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

11:30 am – Friends in Faith

Thursday, August 9

6:00 pm – Bible Study at the Seckel Barn, 404 Vestal Road

Saturday, August 11

10:00 am – Licensing and Training for Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Sunday, August 12 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

9:15 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Announcements

Welcome back, Reverend Stephanie!

Adult Forum resumes: Saving Jesus

Jesus is not just a historical figure relegated to the pages of Scripture and stories that happened long ago. The invitation to follow Jesus is always before us and Jesus' teachings and life call us into a transformational way of seeing and living in the world here and now.

Join us in Adult Forum, Sundays @ 9:15 as we resume our study of Saving Jesus, a 12-part exploration of who Jesus was in his context, time and culture as well as how we can follow Jesus today. A host of experts from many denominations and faith traditions help us to have conversations about the relevance of Jesus for the 21st century. Come and Join the Conversation!

August Ladies' Lunch Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21st!

The August Ladies' Lunch Out will be at Horizon Bistro on Tuesday, August 21st @ noon. Your host is Judy Ritchie. You can contact her via email at wjritchie@embarqmail.com or by phone at 336.200.0244. There's also a sign-up sheet on the Information table.

Mountain Soul's next service will be Sunday, August 26th at 6:00 pm featuring In Harmony!

In Harmony is a local Ashe County duo known for their beautiful harmony. For more information about the group, check out the GN&N.

The Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Vestal Road Barn meets THIS Thursday, August 9th. We will meet at 6:00 pm. Come join us as we study *Conversations with Scripture and with Each Other*. The address is 404 Vestal Road. For more information about the Bible Study, please check out the GN&N.

Friends in Faith

The Friends in Faith group is meeting on Wednesdays at 11:30 am. We gather as sisters in Christ to praise, pray, study, and share our lives. Please join us!

Food & Fellowship Person of the Month for August is: Brenda Weems. Her preferred method of contact is by email – weemswight@earthlink.net. For those who don't use email, she can be reached at 919-812-2810.

Vestry Person of the Month for August is: Jeanne Green. She can be reached at jrgreen@skybest.com or 336-372-4781.

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

COMING ATTRACTIONS!

August and September are going to be very busy months as we gear up for another great season! Some important events to mark on your calendar are:

- **Licensing and Training for Lay Eucharistic Ministers THIS Saturday, August 11th at 10:00 AM.** If your license has expired or if you would like to become licensed to serve the chalice, please make every effort to be at this important event.

- **Genesis Bible Study begins Wednesday, September 19th at 11:30 and will conclude Wednesday, November 14th.** This will be a deep exploration of The Beginning of all things!

- **TBA: Training, refreshment and Support for all Servers of all ages, Ushers, and Readers.** As the Fall season unfolds, look for these opportunities to refresh your ministry in these areas, join one of these ministries for the first time and go deeper into why these are key areas of ministry for the entire parish!



Welcome Back, Reverend Stephanie!



Christ Episcopal Church
2543 US Highway 21 South
PO Box 1866

Sparta, North Carolina 28675

Office: 336-372-7983

Rector cellphone: 336-363-4141

Email: ccepiscopal@skybest.com

Website: christchurchallegghany.org

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm

Music used by permission CCLI License #11138616.

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

Art: A Clean Heart by Jen Norton.

"The Servant Song", Words: Richard Gilliard, © Words: 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood Benson Music Publishing, Inc.).

"Spirit of the Living God", Authors: Daniel Iverson, Lowell Alexander, Copyright 1994, BirdwingMusic.