

# Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

*A Home to All*

*Sharing God's Unconditional Love*



**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 19, 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](mailto:ccepisopal@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 people:**

**Laura Davis**, for serving as musician and for being so generous with her talents, and

**the Food & Fellowship Committee**, for providing a summertime luncheon following today's service.

# The Gathering

Prelude

*All stand, as able.*

Processional Hymn #435, vss 1-3

*At the Name of Jesus*

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.

Hymn #679

*Surely it is God who saves me*

*Surely it is God who saves me;  
trusting him, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord defends and shields me  
and his saving help is near.  
So rejoice as you draw water  
from salvation's living spring;  
in the day of your deliverance  
thank the Lord, his mercies sing.*

*Make his deeds known to the peoples;  
tell out his exalted Name.  
Praise the Lord, who has done great things;  
all his works his might proclaim.  
Zion, lift your voice in singing;  
for with you has come to dwell,  
in your very midst, the great and  
Holy One of Israel.*

*Remain standing, as able.*

### **The Collect**

Presider        The Lord be with you.

People         **And also with you.**

Presider        Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*All are seated.*

## **Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading**

**1 Kings 2: 10-12; 3: 3-14**

David slept with his ancestors, and was buried in the city of David. The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem. So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David; and his kingdom was firmly established.

Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and

discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.”

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

*Please be seated.*

## **The Response** **Psalm 111**

Hallelujah!  
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, \*  
   in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! \*  
   they are studied by all who delight in them.

His work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
   and his righteousness endures for ever.

He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \*  
   the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
   he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works \*  
   in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \*  
   all his commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, \*  
   because they are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption to his people;  
he commanded his covenant for ever; \*  
   holy and awesome is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; \*  
   those who act accordingly have a good understanding;  
   his praise endures for ever.

## The Second Reading

### Ephesians 5: 15-20

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 able.*

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

### The Gospel

#### John 6: 51-58

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

Laura Davis

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)

Laura Davis

Hymn #671, vss. 1, 3, 5

Amazing Grace

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.*

*The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.*

Taizé #20

The Lord is my song

*O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer.  
When I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer.  
Come and listen to me.*

*The Lord is my song,  
The Lord is my praise:  
All my hope comes from God.  
The Lord is my song,  
The Lord is my praise:  
God, the wellspring of life.*

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 #493**

*O for a thousand tongues to sing*

**The Dismissal**

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

**Coming Lessons**

1 Kings 8: 1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43

Psalm 84

Ephesians 6: 10-20

John 6: 56-69

## Prayer List

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

**Departed:**

**Birthdays:** Allen Williams (August 20)

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Jesse & Linda Williams (August 20), Phil & Deb Donaldson (August 24), Hal & Nancy Wilson (August 25)

### The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Jeanne Green	Jeanne Green
Chalicer I	Ann Hazard	Shelley Jones
Chalicer II	Jeanne Green	Brenda Weems
Crucifer	Sheila Pfaender	Kimberly Jones
Lector I	Phil Donaldson	Allan Joyce
Lector II	Sheila Pfaender	Tricia Whitman
Prayers of the People	Frank Hazard	Jess Williams
Oblations Bearers	Brenda Weems & Rita Woodruff	Denise & Larry Seckel
Greeters/Ushers	Phil & Deb Donaldson	Joe & Judy Ritchie
Book Bearer	Jeanne Green	Brenda Weems
Sanctus Bell	Sheila Pfaender	Kimberly Jones

## Schedule

**Sunday, August 19 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:15 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Fundraising Forum and Summertime Luncheon immediately following the 10:30 service.

**Tuesday, August 21**

12:00 pm – Ladies’ Lunch Out at Horizon Bistro

### **Wednesday, August 22**

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist

11:30 am - Friends in Faith

### **Thursday, August 23**

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

**Friday, August 24 - Church Office will be closed.**

### **Sunday, August 26 - Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:15 am - Adult Forum

10:30 am - Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm - Mountain Soul presents In Harmony

## **Announcements**

### **Adult Forum: 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 continue 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!

### **Fundraising Forum TODAY after the morning service!**

Stephanie will be leading a brief fundraising forum following today's service. This will be your opportunity to hear about the exciting possibilities before us that will help support our financial health as well as create deep bonds of fellowship and connection. Please plan to join us!

### **Summer Salad Luncheon TODAY after the morning service!**

The Food and Fellowship Team is hosting a summertime luncheon featuring a variety of salads and a couple of desserts. Please join us today following our morning service for a light lunch and some wonderful fellowship.

### **August Ladies' Lunch Out is scheduled for THIS Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>!**

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

### **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!

**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!

**Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Vestal Road Barn THIS Thursday!**

We will meet **THIS Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm**. In preparation, **please read** Mark 9:2-49, Matthew 5:1-7:27, Luke 1:1-2:20, Luke 15, Luke 18:1-30, Acts 1:1-2, and *Conversations with Scripture and with Each Other*, Chapter 2: pages 11-17.5, 21, 3-27. The Seckel barn address is 404 Vestal Road. We look forward to seeing you on the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

**Mountain Heritage Festival Fundraiser on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>!**

We will be participating in this year's Mountain Heritage Festival on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm! Our booth will be selling water, soft drinks, cotton candy, and nuts and other possible goodies! And at the moment, we'll be the only booth set up to sell those items so we expect a good day! We already have someone volunteering to provide drinks but if you'd like to make a contribution to support the fundraiser expenses or would like to join us at the booth, please let us know as soon as possible. Stephanie will be at the booth for the whole day to greet folks and we hope to get a minimum of 9 volunteers to manage the concessions. Please sign-up on the sign-up sheet located on the Information table. This Festival will be a great opportunity to meet our neighbors and invite them to Christ Church!

**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!

**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](mailto:jrgreen@skybest.com) or 336-372-4781.

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

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

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