

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A Home to All

Sharing God's Unconditional Love



Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 14, 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 ccepiscopeal@skybest.com.

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

Adult Formation at Christ Church includes an Adult Forum series Sunday mornings at 9:00 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

Louise Law & Rod Pace, for providing the flowers for the altar in loving memory of Helen Schuessler (Louise's mother) and Mattie Jo Pace (Rod's mother).

The Gathering

Prelude

Announcements

Witness

Buck Hunnicutt

All stand, as able

Transforming Generosity Prayer (prayed by all)

Presider Let us pray.

Abundant God, you made us in your image and breathed in us a spirit of generosity that is both gift and response. Move us, we pray, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully, that our common ministry may ever bear witness to your unfailing grace. In the name of the Three in whom we are One, Amen.

A time of silence following the prayer.

Processional Hymn #450, vss. 1-3

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!

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.



1 I'll praise my Mak - er while I've breath; and when my voice is lost in
 2 How hap - py they whose hopes re - ly on Is - rael's God, who made the
 3 The Lord pours eye - sight on the blind; the Lord sup - ports the faint - ing
 4 I'll praise him while he lends me breath; and when my voice is lost in



death, praise shall em - ploy my no - bler powers. My
 sky and earth and seas with all their train; whose
 mind and sends the la - boring con - science peace. He
 death, praise shall em - ploy my no - bler powers. My



days of praise shall ne'er be past while life and thought and be - ing
 truth for ev - er stands se - cure, who saves the op - pressed, and feeds the
 helps the strang - er in dis - tress, the wid - owed and the fa - ther -
 days of praise shall ne'er be past while life and thought and be - ing



last, or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.
 poor. And none shall find his prom - ise vain.
 less, and grants the pris - oner sweet re - lease.
 last, or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); alt. John Wesley (1703-1791), alt.; para. of Psalm 146. Music: *Old 113th*, melody from *Strassburger Kirchenant.* 1525; harm. Vicar Earle Copes (b. 1921) Copyright ©1964, Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Remain standing, as able.

The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ 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

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Job said:

"Today also my complaint is bitter;
his hand is heavy despite my groaning.

Oh, that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!

I would lay my case before him,
and fill my mouth with arguments.

I would learn what he would answer me,
and understand what he would say to me.

Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?
No; but he would give heed to me.

There an upright person could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.

"If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;

on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty has terrified me;

If only I could vanish in darkness,
and thick darkness would cover my face!"

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

People Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

The Response
Psalm 22:1-15

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.

They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.

All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

"He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; *
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."

Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.

I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.

Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.

I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; *
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as able.

Gospel Hymn #490

I want to walk as a child of the light

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 10:17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

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
 died; 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

The Leader and People pray responsively

- Leader: Bound together in Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit, we pray with one heart and mind to our God, saying:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Leader: May the love that flows endlessly between the Father and the Son in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit renew and deepen the lives of all who follow Jesus and draw the human family all together into your eternal dance. This we pray:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Leader: May we, with the leaders of the Church, and the leaders of nations discern the ways to overcome divisions and mistrust, that all may reflect your unity in every aspect of our common lives. This we pray:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Leader: May your Abundant Life, seen clearly in the life of Jesus, endure and flourish in us as the Holy Spirit enlightens us to a greater understanding of you, ourselves, and all others with whom we share our planet. This we pray:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Leader: May our families, our communal life and our wider communities 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. This we ask:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Leader: We give you thanks 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. This we pray:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- 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... and also all who suffer in silence. For healing for all the world we pray,
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Leader: In an endless outpouring of thanksgiving for your ceaseless joy, we give thanks for ... and all the blessings of this life. That we may always rejoice in the power of your love we pray:
- People: **By faith, with thanksgiving.**
- Presider: Almighty God, when our vision fails and our understanding is darkened, when the ways of life seem hard and the brightness of life is fading, grant us wisdom which deepens faith and enlarges trust. Whenever your ways in the world or our soul are hard to understand, increase our patience, and our living faith in you. May we at all times and with a quiet mind put our confidence in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
By what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

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

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 Priest, 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 say,

**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; God's holy food, for God's holy people.

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

Laura Davis

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

Presider Let us pray

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Please stand, as able.

The Blessing

Be strong and be bold, for it is God who goes before you. God will be with you; God will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed. And may the blessing of God, the One, Holy, Undivided Trinity, be upon you and abide with you now and always.

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Coming Lessons

Job 38:1-7, 34-41
Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37b
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

Prayer List

Intercessions: Ed Irvin who died on October 6th and Jean & family who are grieving, Ben, Chuck B., Gina D., Jim D. (healing injury), Jimmy T. (healing cancer), Julie O., Karleen, Linda W., and Shelly Morris in the death of her mother

Departed: Ed Irvin (Oct 6)

Birthdays: John Bassett (Oct 18), Linda Williams (Oct 19)

Wedding Anniversaries:

The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Sheila Pfaender	Sheila Pfaender
Chalicerist I	Brenda Weems	Nancy Wilson
Chalicerist II	Ann Hazard	Sheila Pfaender
Crucifer	Ann Hazard	Sheila Pfaender
Lector I	Frank Hazard	James Halsey
Lector II	Sheila Pfaender	Barbara Halsey
Prayers of the People	Tricia Whitman	Sheila Pfaender
Oblations Bearers	Frances & David Buckle	Geoff & Shelley Jones
Greeters/Ushers		James & Barbara Halsey
Book Bearer	Brenda Weems	Nancy Wilson
Sanctus Bell	Ann Hazard	Sheila Pfaender

Schedule

Sunday, October 14 – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

NO Adult Forum today

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, October 16

12:30 pm – Vestry meeting

Wednesday, October 17

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

11:30 am – Genesis Bible Study

Thursday, October 18

6:00 pm – Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Barn, 404 Vestal Rd.

Sunday, October 21 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Announcements

NO Adult Forum today. Adult Forum will resume next Sunday, October 21st.



Our Festive Luncheon will be November 3 with special guest speaker, Pan McCaslin. Good food, fellowship, and fun!

Sunday, November 11th will be our Consecration Sunday!

Your Abundant Living Action TEAM will be bringing you inspiring stories of how lives are changed and ministries are funded through giving back to God what God has so generously given to us.

Mountain Soul presents Fraidy Cats on Sunday, October 28th at 6:00 pm. For more information and details about the band, please check out the GN&N, and plan to join us on the 28th!

The Genesis Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 11:30 am. We use the book, *Genesis* by Celia B. Sinclair in *The Interpretation Bible Studies* series. Bring a lunch and a friend, and let's go deep into the beginning of all things!

Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Vestal Road Barn THIS Thursday, October 18th!

We will meet Thursday, October 18th at 6:00 pm. Come join us as we study *Conversations with Scripture and with Each Other*. The address is 404 Vestal Road. *Please check the GN&N for the readings.*

October Ladies' Lunch Out is scheduled for Tuesday, October 23rd!

The October Ladies' Lunch Out is scheduled for Tuesday, October 23rd at 12:00 noon at Deb Donaldson's studio, 263 Logans Way. Deb will be hosting. After a simple lunch of soup, salad and bread, those attending will dye silk scarves using art tissue. Deb will have the studio set up with silk scarves, art tissue, gloves, etc. If you would like to contribute to the cost to replenish the art supplies, then \$5 per scarf. Please sign-up on the sheet located on the information table, and if you have any questions, contact Deb at 336.372.7573 or sld1400@aol.com.

Food & Fellowship Person of the Month for October is: Marybeth Lentz. She can be reached by telephone at 336.657.7088 or by email at mlentz@skybest.com.

Vestry Person of the month for October is: Jann Boggs. She can be reached at jaspalding@juno.com or 727.641.4925.

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.