

# Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

*A Home to All*

*Sharing God's Unconditional Love*



**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 21, 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](mailto:ccepiscopal@skybest.com).

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

**Joe & Judy Ritchie**, for providing the flowers for the altar in loving memory of their son, Bill Ritchie.

# The Gathering

Prelude

Announcements

**Witness**

Joe Ritchie

*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 #376**

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

**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.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; 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

Job 38:1-7, 34-41

The Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

Gird up your loins like a man,  
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?  
Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!  
Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,  
or who laid its cornerstone

when the morning stars sang together  
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,  
so that a flood of waters may cover you?

Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go  
and say to you, 'Here we are'?

Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,  
or given understanding to the mind?

Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?  
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,

when the dust runs into a mass  
and the clods cling together?

"Can you hunt the prey for the lion,  
or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,

when they crouch in their dens,  
or lie in wait in their covert?

Who provides for the raven its prey,  
when its young ones cry to God,  
and wander about for lack of food?"

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

*Please be seated.*

## **The Response**

**Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 37b**

Bless the Lord, O my soul; \*

O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness!  
you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak \*  
and spread out the heavens like a curtain.

You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; \*  
you make the clouds your chariot;  
you ride on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds your messengers \*  
and flames of fire your servants.

You have set the earth upon its foundations, \*  
so that it never shall move at any time.

You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; \*  
the waters stood higher than the mountains.

At your rebuke they fled; \*  
at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, \*  
to the places you had appointed for them.

You set the limits that they should not pass; \*  
they shall not again cover the earth.

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

Hallelujah!

## **The Second Reading**

**Hebrews 5:1-10**

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

*Please stand, as able.*

**Gospel Hymn #544, vss 1-3**

*Jesus shall reign*

*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 10:35-45**

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Jesus and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

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

WLP 768

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 -



## 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.**

## Confession of Sin

BCP 360

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.

## 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 42:1-6, 10-17  
Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 10:46-52

**Prayer List**

**Intercessions:** Ben D., Chuck B., Gina D., Jean Irvin & family who are grieving, 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:** Willie Plummer (Oct 23), Ann Hazard (Oct 26)

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Jann & Vilder Boggs (Oct 23)

## The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Sheila Pfaender	Sheila Pfaender
Chalicerist I	Nancy Wilson	Bruce Smith
Chalicerist II	Sheila Pfaender	Brenda Weems
Crucifer	Sheila Pfaender	Brenda Weems
Lector I	Jim Halsey	Jess Williams
Lector II	Barbara Halsey	Bruce Smith
Prayers of the People	Sheila Pfaender	Bruce Smith
Oblations Bearers	Geoff & Shelley Jones	Joe & Judy Ritchie
Greeters/Ushers	Jim & Barbara Halsey	Linda & Jess Williams
Book Bearer	Nancy Wilson	Bruce Smith
Sanctus Bell	Sheila Pfaender	Brenda Weems

## Schedule

### Sunday, October 21 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

### Tuesday, October 23

12:00 pm – Ladies’ Lunch Out at Deb’s Studio, 263 Logans Way, Sparta

### Wednesday, October 24

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

11:30 am – Genesis Bible Study

### Sunday, October 28 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm – Mountain Soul presents Fraily Cats

## Announcements



**Our Festive Luncheon will be November 3** with special guest speaker, Pan McCaslin. Good food, fellowship, and fun! Please remember to **RSVP** to the church office **no later than Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**.

**Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

**October Ladies' Lunch Out is scheduled for THIS Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>!**

The October Ladies' Lunch Out is scheduled for THIS Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 noon at Deb Donaldson's studio, 263 Logans Way.

**Mountain Soul presents Fraidy Cats NEXT Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup>!

**The Genesis Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 11:30 am.**

**Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Vestal Road Barn meets on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

We will meet Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> 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.*

**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](mailto:mlentz@skybest.com).

**Vestry Person of the month for October is:** Jann Boggs. She can be reached at [jaspalding@juno.com](mailto:jaspalding@juno.com) or 727.641.4925.

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

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](mailto:ccepiscopal@skybest.com)  
Website: [christchurchallegany.org](http://christchurchallegany.org)  
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.*