

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A Home to All

Sharing God's Unconditional Love



Consecration Sunday
November 11, 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 9:00 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,

Ceil & Randy Watson, for providing the flowers in memory of Paul Connell, beloved brother and brother-in-law, and

Ceil & Randy Watson, for providing refreshments for our fellowship after the service.

The Gathering

Prelude

Announcements

Witness

Sheila Pfaender

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. Transform 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 #390

Praise to the Lord

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.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he 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

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Naomi her mother-in-law said to Ruth, "My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do." She said to her, "All that you tell me I will do."

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him." Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

The Response

Psalm 127

Unless the Lord builds the house, *
their labor is in vain who build it.

Unless the Lord watches over the city, *
in vain the watchman keeps his vigil.

It is in vain that you rise so early and go to bed so late; *
vain, too, to eat the bread of toil,
for he gives to his beloved sleep.

Children are a heritage from the Lord, *
and the fruit of the womb is a gift.

Like arrows in the hand of a warrior *
are the children of one's youth.

Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them! *
he shall not be put to shame
when he contends with his enemies in the gate.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 9:24-28

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as able.

Gospel Hymn #410

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

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 12:38-44

As Jesus taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

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 -

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.**

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

Consecration Prayer

- Leader Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving. These cards represent our sweat, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams.
- People **The pledges which we make on them are but tokens of the remarkable gifts that have been given to us and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become.**
- Leader May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy, filled with possibilities.
- People **May we hold this image in our hearts and minds so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table, we can see our very selves being part of this offering, it is us on the table, living sacrifices to you. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Standing, as able.

Prayer B, BCP 367

- Presider The Lord be with you.
- People **And also with you.**
- Presider Lift up your hearts.
- People **We lift them to the Lord.**
- Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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: 129 (*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.

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 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.

Stand or kneel as able at Prayer of Consecration

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,

ALL **We remember his death,**
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;

Presider 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; 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 *(sung by all)*

Laura Davis

Organ selections

Hymn #333

Now the silence now the peace

*Now the silence Now the peace
Now the empty hands uplifted
Now the kneeling Now the plea
Now the Father's arms in welcome
Now the hearing Now the power
Now the vessel brimmed for pouring
Now the Body Now the Blood
Now the joyful celebration
Now the wedding Now the songs
Now the heart forgiven leaping
Now the Spirit's visitation
Now the Son's epiphany
Now the Father's blessing
Now Now Now*

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.

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.

The Blessing

Presider Our help is in the name of the Lord;

People The maker of heaven and earth.

Presider Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

People From this time forth for evermore.

Presider The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon, and remain with you for ever.

All AMEN!

Recessional Hymn #557

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!

The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Coming Lessons

1 Samuel 1:4-20

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Hebrews 10:11-25

Mark 13:1-8

Prayer List

Intercessions: Ben D., Chuck B., Jim D. (healing injury), Julie O., Karleen, Linda W., Ted Y.

Departed: Margaret Peterson (close friend of Martha Honaker),
Don Rink (close friend of the Plummers)

Birthdays:

Wedding Anniversaries: Fred & Pat Hardee (Nov 15), thanksgiving that Gina D. is healing!

The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Nancy Wilson & Marybeth Lentz	Nancy Wilson & Marybeth Lentz
Chalicer I	Frances Buckle	Ann Hazard
Chalicer II	Brenda Weems	Sheila Pfaender
Crucifer	Brenda Weems	Linda Williams
Lector I	Frances Buckle	Cynthia Grant
Lector II	Jann Boggs	Phil Donaldson
Prayers of the People	Cynthia Grant	Linda Williams
Oblations Bearers	Marybeth Lentz & Bruce Smith	Hal & Nancy Wilson
Greeters/Ushers	Joe & Judy Ritchie	Phil & Deb Donaldson
Book Bearer	Frances Buckle	Sheila Pfaender
Sanctus Bell	Brenda Weems	Linda Williams

Schedule

Sunday, November 11 – Consecration Sunday

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, November 13

12:30 pm – Vestry meeting

Wednesday, November 14

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

11:30 am – Genesis Bible Study

Sunday, November 18 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Announcements



TODAY, Sunday, November 11th is our Consecration Sunday!

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

Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Vestal Road Barn does not meet again until Thursday, November 29th at 6:00 pm. *Please check the GN&N for the readings.*

November Ladies' Lunch Out

The Ladies' Lunch Out in November will be on Tuesday, November 20th at 12:00 noon at Sally Williamson's home, 2350 Saddle Mountain Church Rd, Ennice (a map will follow soon). Sally Williamson will be hosting. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Information table. If you have questions, you can reach Sally at sallyewilliamson@aol.com or 704.756.9048.

Christmas Children's Gift Giving Program

The Outreach Committee is organizing the Christ Church participation in the Christmas Children's Gift Giving Program of Alleghany County. Our goal is to provide Christmas for 30 children, not to exceed \$100 per child. This year we will have a sign-up sheet at coffee hour beginning TODAY Sunday, November 11, so you can sign-up for specific children and provide gifts for them. Also, we can purchase Christmas gifts for the children with your donation if you prefer. We'll have our annual Christmas Wrapping Party on Sunday, December 9th and encourage you to attend with your gifts so we can enjoy the fellowship of wrapping everything together. For more details and to learn ways you can help, contact Cynthia Grant at 336-467-0906, by email at cynthiaegrant@gmail.com.

Mountain Soul presents For His Glory on Sunday, November 25th at 6:00 pm! Watch the GN&N for details about the group.

Food & Fellowship Person of the Month for November 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 November 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.



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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.