

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A Home to All

Sharing God's Unconditional Love



Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
November 18, 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 blank 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, email the church office at ccepisopal@skybest.com.

Newsletter: Sign up today to receive our electronic newsletter, the weekly *Good News & Notes*. Email the church office at ccepisopal@skybest.com.

Sermons Available: Recent sermons available at 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:

Rev. Martha Honaker, for providing the message today,

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

Joe Williamson, for providing the flowers for the altar in honor of his upcoming wedding anniversary with Sally, and

Cynthia Grant, for providing refreshments for our fellowship following the service.

The Gathering

Prelude

Processional Hymn #438

Tell out, my soul

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.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; 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

1 Samuel 1:4-20

On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. Her husband Elkanah said to her, “Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?”

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: “O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.”

As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said to her, “How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine.” But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time.” Then Eli answered, “Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him.” And she said, “Let your servant find favor in your sight.” Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

The Response

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Hannah prayed and said,

"My heart exults in the Lord;
my strength is exalted in my God.

"There is no Holy One like the Lord,
no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.

Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;

for the Lord is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.

The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble gird on strength.

Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.

The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low, he also exalts.

He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap,

to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.

“He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness;
for not by might does one prevail.

The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered;
the Most High will thunder in heaven.

The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king,
and exalt the power of his anointed.”

The Second Reading

Hebrews 10:11-25

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

“This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,”

he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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

Please stand, as able.

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 13:1-8

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birthpangs."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

All are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Martha Honaker

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Prayer B, BCP 367

Standing, as able.

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

Taizé #28

Come and fill our hearts with your peace

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Alleluia! (Repeat)*

Taizé #29

Nothing can trouble

*Nothing can trouble,
nothing can frighten.
Those who seek God
shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble,
nothing can frighten.
God alone
fills us. (Repeat)*

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.

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 #448, vss 1-3

O love, how deep

The Dismissal

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

Coming Lessons

2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 132:1-19
Revelations 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

Prayer List

Intercessions: Ben D., Chuck B., Jim D. (healing injury), Julie O., Karleen, Linda W., and Ted Y.
Departed: Margaret Peterson (close friend of Martha Honaker),
Don Rink (close friend of the Plummers)
Birthdays: Pat Hardee (Nov 21)
Wedding Anniversaries: Joe & Sally Williamson (Nov 23); thanksgiving that Gina D. is healing!

The Following People are Assisting with the Services

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

Schedule

Sunday, November 18 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, November 20

12:00 pm – Ladies’ Lunch Out at Sally Williamson’s home

Wednesday, November 21

NO morning service or Genesis Bible study this morning; both will resume next week

Thursday and Friday, November 22-23 – The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving.

Sunday, November 25 – Last Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm – Mountain Soul presents For His Glory

Announcements



Thank you to all of you who made the Consecration celebration one of such joy and abundance! The outpouring of items for those in our community and for the Animal Shelter combined with a room full of people joining with the Holy Spirit to celebrate our life together as the people of God at Christ Church made for a day that shone with the love of Christ. So let's say Amen and Alleluia for the Transforming Generosity and continue to go with joy where that journey leads us!

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. There is a sign-up sheet on the Information table 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. For more details and to learn ways you can help, contact Cynthia Grant at 336-467-0906, by email at cynthiaegrant@gmail.com.

Neighborhood Bible Study at the Seckel's Vestal Road Barn will meet Thursday, November 29th at 6:00 pm. *Please check the GN&N for the readings.*

Mountain Soul presents For His Glory NEXT Sunday, November 25th at 6:00 pm! Read the GN&N for more 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.

Upcoming opportunities to enjoy some Food & Fellowship:

November 25th - Deb Donaldson volunteered to host several soup luncheons this winter and our first one will be on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. Please join us for a heart warming lunch of soup and some great conversation.

December 9th - Once again Christ Church is participating in the Christmas Children's Gift Giving Program of Alleghany County and our annual Christmas Wrapping Party will be held on this date. Bring your gifts and enjoy the fellowship of wrapping together while enjoying a lunch hosted by Deb Donaldson and some Food & Fellowship team members. Even if you don't have gifts to wrap, we invite you to attend anyway and eat some lunch, help others wrap while sharing in the joy of this wonderful ministry.

December 23rd - We observe the fourth Sunday of Advent on this date and will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas immediately following the morning service. The members of the Food & Fellowship team will bring sandwiches, drinks and cookies into the sanctuary to enjoy while we work together to transform Christ Church into the Spirit of Christmas. Please join us for this annual fellowship opportunity.

December 30th - We will end 2018 with another soup luncheon while breaking bread together. Many thanks to Deb Donaldson for making this lunch possible.



Christ Episcopal Church

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