

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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“A welcoming, compassionate and healing community in Christ”



The Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, Bishop of the Diocese of Bethlehem

Office Hours: 10:00am-2:00pm | Tuesday through Thursday

VESTRY

Senior Warden - Chris Nelson

Jr. Warden - Steve Whitely

Myra Bailey, Carolyn Buckley, Kevin Casey, Rob Causton,

Cynthia Leenerts, Jan Selving and Jihan Taylor

Clerk of Vestry – Patti Alleger

Welcome visitors and seasonal neighbors! We rejoice in your presence among us. In order to get to know you better please sign our guest book kept in the narthex.

Prelude

Processional Hymn

We adore you

Hymnal WLP #809

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 299

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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.*

Collect

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Psalm 33:12-22

- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.
- 14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.
- 15 He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.
- 16 There is no king that can be saved
by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.
- 17 The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon
those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,
- 19 To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.
- 20 Our soul waits for the Lord; *
he is our help and our shield.
- 21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.
- 22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered himself faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Sequence Hymn

Be thou my vision

Hymnal #488(v. 1-2)

Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Homily

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People – Form V

BCP p. 389

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Kevin our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world; that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust, especially Joseph our President and Tom our Governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers for; June, Anthony, Antonia, Dennis, Beverly, Brianna, Renee, Bernie, Don, Krystal, Doug, Michael, Rick, Lorelei, Louise, Patti, Thomas, Lori, Nicole, Thomas-Luke and Christine and for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer in the Diocese of Bethlehem we pray for St. Mark's, Moscow; in the Diocese of Kajo Keji, we pray for St. Matthew Wurta Parish; and in the Anglican Communion we pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies. In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Isaac During; for Claudia, Kevin, Giovanna & Guiliana Fabiano; for Chris & Barbara Forth; for Kevin, Pamela & Kyle Furst; and for Carol Gabrielan.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, remembering especially those whom we now name silently or aloud (PAUSE) and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord our God.

Almighty Father, we, the people of Christ Church Stroudsburg, thank you for sustaining us during this time of discernment, and for uniting us through Jesus Christ in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that Bruce may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People together

**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**

The Priest says

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.**

Peace

The Holy Communion

Musical Offertory

Doxology Hymn #380 v. 3

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus #WLP 858

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 that comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 say,

People and Celebrant

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.*

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Hymnal WLP #865

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymn:

Taste and See

Hymnal WLP #764

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p.365

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.*

Prayer for the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Blessing

Dismissal

Recessional Hymn

God be with you till we meet again

Hymnal WLP #801

Postlude

Today's Liturgy Participants:

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Canon Don Muller
Organist/Music Director: Sue Stillo
Lectors 9:15am: Mary Ellen Whitely & Jenny Collier
Counters: Steve Whitely & Martha Linne

Next Week's Liturgy Participants:
Lectors 9:15am: Jill Thatcher & Andrea Cato
Counters: Jill Thatcher & Chris Nelson

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday:

8 a.m. Zoom Morning Prayer
Email Cynthia Leenerts (cleenerts@esu.edu) for link

Wednesday:

8 a.m. Zoom Morning Prayer
Email Patti Alleger (palleger@ptd.net) for link

Thursday:

8 a.m. Zoom Morning Prayer
Email Cynthia Leenerts (cleenerts@esu.edu) for link

Friday:

8 a.m. Zoom Morning Prayer
Email Patti Alleger (palleger@ptd.net) for link
8 p.m. Compline Evening Prayer (on our Facebook page-Live)

Sunday:

9:15 a.m. – Live and Live Stream Holy Eucharist, Rite II