

Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.



The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 06, 2025

The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin
Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev George Greer
Presider

Cliff Hudgins
Senior Warden

Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

We are delighted God has brought you to this special place.

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 email our office at ccepisopal@skybest.com with your name and contact information, and 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.

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

Do you need prayer? We have an active prayer ministry here at Christ Church. If prayer would be helpful to you, please fill out a prayer request card (found in the pew back), making sure you include your name and contact information (email and/or phone). We'll include you in our weekly prayers. Just complete the card & put it in the offering plate during the Offertory or share your request with the greeter.

We extend special thanks today to:

The Rev George Greer for leading us in worship this morning,

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

Ken & Janice Kleva for the beautiful flowers at the altar in honor of their daughters', Mary & Abigail's birthdays, and

Stella Daniel for providing coffee hour refreshments today.

Please enter the Sanctuary in silence to respect those who are preparing for worship. Save conversations, whispered or out loud, for outside or Coffee Hour.

Please silence your cell phone, too.

Social media:

For more information about Christ Church, please visit our website – www.christchurchallegghany.org

Christ Episcopal Church

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Sparta, North Carolina 28675

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Email: ccepisopal@skybest.com

Website: www.christchurchallegghany.org

Online giving link: <https://onrealm.org/CCEpisopal/give/now>

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

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Cover art: *The Holy Seventy Apostles, Orthodox Icons*

The Gathering

Prelude

Laura Davis

Announcements

Nancy Wilson

Please stand, as able.

Processional Hymn #717

My country 'tis of thee

Remain standing, as able.

Opening Acclamation

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

All 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*)



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly



King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we



give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray,

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 66:10-14

Thus says the LORD:

"Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,

all you who love her;

rejoice with her in joy,

all you who mourn over her~

that you may nurse and be satisfied

from her consoling breast;

that you may drink deeply with delight
from her glorious bosom.

For thus says the LORD:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;

and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
and dandled on her knees.

As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;
your bodies shall flourish like the grass;

and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants,
and his indignation is against his enemies."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Psalm 66:1-8

Be joyful in God, all you lands; *
sing the glory of his Name;
sing the glory of his praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! *
because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth bows down before you, *
sings to you, sings out your Name."

Come now and see the works of God, *
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.

He turned the sea into dry land,
so that they went through the water on foot, *
and there we rejoiced in him.

In his might he rules for ever;
his eyes keep watch over the nations; *
let no rebel rise up against him.

Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.

The Second Reading

Galatians 6:1-16

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads.

Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised~ only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule~ peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as able.

Gospel Hymn #541

Come, labor on

Please remain standing, as able.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and

say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

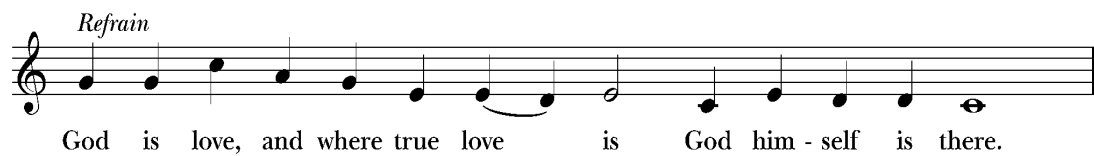
"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Refrain:



All are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev George Greer

A time of silence following the sermon.

Please stand, as able.

The Nicene Creed

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.

Please stand or kneel, as able.

Prayers of the People

Leader: God of joyous love, hear our prayers and be swift to answer us as we say, Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Embolden your church. Let it be ever in the world seeking to bring the healing power of the living Christ to a wounded world. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Hold our nation in your care, grant courage to those who stand for the equality of all persons and who advocate justice for all, and guide us in becoming a more perfect reflection of our founding promises. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Strengthen the faith of those gathered here today and grant us to see the fruits of our ministry that we might be encouraged in the work you have called us to. Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons... *especially our Presiding Bishop, Sean, our Bishop, José, and our Celebrant, The Rev George Greer.* Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *especially, in our Anglican community, the Church of Nigeria; in the Diocese of Western North Carolina, Episcopal Chaplains serving the Armed Forces, VA Hospitals, and other organizations providing care for veterans, and in our Alleghany Community, Mt Zion United Methodist Church. And please keep Christ Church, the Vestry and Leadership in your prayers...* Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We offer thanksgiving for the rich bounty of your creation. Guide us in working to ensure its abundance is shared equitably and sustainably. Lord in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Relieve the suffering of those impacted by illness, injury, and impairment, and grant them a share in the peace which passes understanding. Especially we lift us... **Antje & Bill, Bob, Bobbie, Brenda & Kelly, Carl & Carol, Carl & Mimi, Cathy Davis and her family, Charles & Christine, Donna & Mike, Elizabeth, Emily, Frank & Ann W, Gary, Isabel, Jeanne, Jonathan, Julia, Linda, Lucy, Lynn, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Mark, Marybeth & Ned, Mr. Whitley, PM's family, Rita & Angelia, Rod & Louise, Roger, Rudy, Tammy, and Vanita.** *Please add your own petitions silently or aloud...* Lord in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Embrace the dying in your eternal love, shroud them with your grace, and grant them entrance into the place of light and life at your side. *We pray especially for...Allen, Linda's cousin, and PM.* Lord in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Presider: Throughout history, you have empowered your people to make your love manifest in the lives of those who have known suffering. Empower us today to be agents of your love and heralds of your gospel to a world in need of both; and all this we ask through our Lord, Jesus who is your Christ and who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit eternally. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP, pg 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.**

Please stand, as able.

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.

Please be seated.

Offertory Music

Laura Davis

Please stand, as able.

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. Amen.*

Please remain standing, as able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP 367

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.

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord and in fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations. 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: (sung by all)

Land of Rest tune



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the
high - est! Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord! Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Remain standing or kneel for prayer of consecration.

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 the 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.

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,

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

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,

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

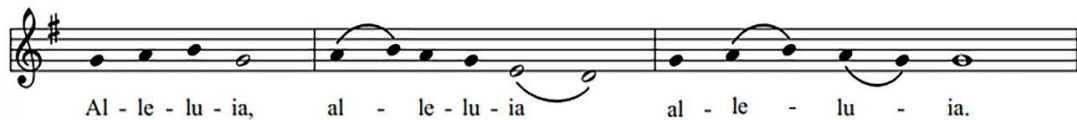
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction: *(sung by all)*

Proulx Alleluia



Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

Presider: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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.

Please be seated.

Communion Music

Laura Davis

Surely the Presence of the Lord

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel God's mighty power and God's 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.*

Please stand or kneel, as able.

Prayer after Communion

BCP, pg 366

Presider Let us pray,
 Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 for assuring us in these mysteries
 that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, Father, send us out
 to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Rev George Greer

Please stand, as able.

Recessional Hymn #719

O beautiful for spacious skies

The Dismissal

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

Postlude

Laura Davis

Coming Lessons

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Psalm 25:1-9

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

The following people are assisting with the services

Role	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Altar Guild	Doris King	Doris King
Crucifer	Patti Phelps	Bruce Smith
Lector I	Barbara Halsey	Jann Boggs
Lector II	Barbara Halsey	Jann Boggs
Prayers of the People	Barbara Halsey	Jann Boggs
Sanctus Bell	Patti Phelps	Bruce Smith
Greeter(s)/Usher(s)	Jann Boggs/Les Colvard	Patti Phelps/Ruthie Maxwell

Prayer List

Intercessions:

Antje & Bill, Bob Bamburg, Bobbie, Brenda & Kelly Weems, Carl & Carol Greer, Carl & Mimi (loved ones of Elizabeth, Martha's friend), Cathy Davis (Rev Dr) & her family, Charles & Christine McKelvy, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Elizabeth (Rev Martha's friend, has been moved to hospice), Emily Buck, Frank & Ann W, Gary Medley, Isabel Tomé, Jeanne Green, Jonathan, Julia (Allan's cousin), Linda Blevins, Lucy, Lynn Ellis, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Mark, Marybeth & Ned Lentz, Mr. Whitley, PM's family following his death, Rita Woodruff & Angelia Miller, Rod Pace & Louise Law, Roger, Rudy McKnight, Tammy, and Vanita (Ruthie's sister). And we pray for Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

Departed: Allen, Linda's cousin, and PM

Birthdays:

Wedding Anniversaries & Thanksgivings:

Schedule

Sunday, July 6 – The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev George Greer

Coffee hour follows the service

Monday, July 7 – The Office will be closed in observance of the July 4th holiday

Tuesday, July 8

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Wednesday, July 9

10:00 am – Yoga with Julie in the Parish Hall

Sunday, July 13 – The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Dr Katherine Shaner

Coffee hour follows the service

Monday, July 14

10:00 am – Vestry meeting

Tuesday, July 15

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Wednesday, July 16

10:00 am – Yoga with Julie in the Parish Hall

Friday, July 18

11:45 am – Ladies Lunch Out at Becca's

Announcements

TODAY: First Sunday Donation Day benefits the Solid Rock Food Closet If you're donating cash or check, please make sure you write "food closet" or SRFC so we know that's where you want your gift to go. There are envelopes in each pew back that can be used if you want to give cash. We'll collect donations the first Sunday of the month and then send one check to the Solid Rock Food Closet, our local food closet. We also welcome non-perishable food and personal care items. If you brought items, please put them in the red wagon located in our narthex.

NEW Yoga class with Julie will begin THIS Wednesday, July 9th at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. Classes will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in July & August. If you haven't completed a form, please do asap so Julie will know what arrangements need to be made. Completed forms need to be put in the yellow file on the Office door. This class is open to both males & females and at whatever level you need.

Revised Ministry Teams are being introduced in the *Good News & Notes*.

The Vestry is thrilled to announce we have a new Priest-in-Charge, The Rev Karla Woggon who will start in August! The Vestry will continue the search for a permanent part-time priest but are excited about having a steady pulpit presence among other things. If you have questions, please ask!

Have you signed up to volunteer at the Solid Rock Food Closet? Christ Church takes care of the month of August each year. We need two (2) volunteers each Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm. *There are still a few slots open!* The sign-up sheet will be on the information table in the Parish Hall. Please sign-up to be a helper, if you're able. Questions? Contact Jann Boggs at 727.641.4925.

The Spiritual Formation/Centering Prayer group continues to meet for prayer on Tuesdays at 1:00. Book Discussion begins at 2:00. We are using a workbook written by Carl Greer, PhD, Jungian psychologist. If you're interested in joining us, please talk to Patti Phelps so she can have materials available. If you are only interested in Centering Prayer, come at 1:00.

The prayer shawls & lap quilts, now located in the Community Resource Room downstairs, are available for you to give someone who needs our Christ Church love and support. *For more information, read the GNN.*

Monthly Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:

Date	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour
July 6	Janice & Ken Kleva	Stella Daniel
July 13	Pat Bassett	Elizabeth Barr Bryant
July 20		Nancy Wilson
July 27	<i>Held</i>	