

# Christ Episcopal Church

Sparta, NC

*A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.*



## **The Last Sunday after the Epiphany** **February 15, 2026**

The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin  
Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev Karla Woggon  
Priest in Charge

# 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 [christchurchspartanc@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchspartanc@gmail.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 [christchurchspartanc@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchspartanc@gmail.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:**

**Jonathan Halsey** for serving as musician and for being so generous with his talents, and

**Wanda McKnight with Patti Phelps** for providing refreshments for coffee hour 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](http://www.christchurchallegghany.org)

### **Christ Episcopal Church**

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

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

*Music used by permission CCLI License #11138616*

## The Gathering

### Prelude

Jonathan Halsey

### Announcements

Louise Law

*Please stand, as able.*

### Processional Hymn #401

*The God of Abraham praise*

*Remain standing, as able.*

### Opening Acclamation

Presider Glory to God on highest!

**People And peace to God's people on earth!**

Presider Let us pray,

**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.**

### Hymn #410, vs 1

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;  
To his feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore his praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.*

### The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray,

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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: Exodus 24:12-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the

mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Response: Psalm 99**

The LORD is King;

let the people tremble; \*

**he is enthroned upon the cherubim;**

**let the earth shake.**

The LORD is great in Zion; \*

**he is high above all peoples.**

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*

**he is the Holy One.**

"O mighty King, lover of justice,

you have established equity; \*

**you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."**

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God

and fall down before his footstool; \*

**he is the Holy One.**

Moses and Aaron among his priests,

and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*

**they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.**

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*

**they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.**

O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; \*

**you were a God who forgave them,**

**yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God

and worship him upon his holy hill; \*

**for the LORD our God is the Holy One.**

## **The Second Reading**

### **2 Peter 1:16-21**

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

**People Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as able.*

### **Gospel Hymn #137, vss 1-3**

*O wondrous type*

*Please remain standing, as able.*

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

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

## **The Gospel**

### **Matthew 17:1-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Gospel Hymn #137, vss 4-5**

*O wondrous type*

*All are seated.*

# The Sermon

The Rev Karla Woggon

*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 (all read the bold text)

- Leader Holy God, as we wait in expectation for your majesty, we offer you our heartfelt prayers as we say, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.
- Leader Be present in your church, in the gathering of your people, and send your spirit to enliven and encourage us today. Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL hear our prayer.**
- Leader We pray for our nation, and for all nations, for those who lead and for those who work for change, that they may labor to better the lives of their communities. Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL hear our prayer.**
- Leader We offer our concerns for the earth; for our natural resources and our failures to tend to them. Open our hearts that we might be part of the solution to the problems of the world around us. Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL hear our prayer.**
- Leader We pray for the people of the earth, for those who hunger, thirst, or yearn for freedom. We pray also for those who have all their needs met, but who are deaf to the cries of the imprisoned, impoverished, and the persecuted, that their eyes may be opened. Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL hear our prayer.**
- Leader We long to end the suffering of the those in trouble and we ask for your comfort and healing for those who are sick, anxious, hopeless, grieving or dying. Be powerfully present to all those in need. Especially we pray for... *Antje, Bill, Bob, Bobbie, Brenda, Kelly, Carl, Carol, Cathy, Charles, Christine, Chuck, Sally, Diane, John, Donna, Mike, Emily, Gary, Ina, Isabel, Jana, Janice, Jean, Jesse, JoAnn, Jonathan, Lucy, Lynn, Ajit, Margaret, Maria, Martha, Rita, Angelia, Rudy, Savany, Stella, Vanita, and Wes.* Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL hear our prayer.**
- Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons... *especially the Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, José, our Bishop, and Karla, our Priest in Charge.* Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL 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 the Province of the Indian Ocean; in the Diocese of Western North Carolina, Lake Logan and Valle Crucis Conference Centers, and in our Alleghany Community, Antioch Primitive Baptist Church. And please keep Christ Church, the Vestry and Leadership in your prayers...* Lord in your mercy,  
**ALL hear our prayer.**
- Leader We pray for the dying and those who gather around them. We pray for a peaceful death and rise in glory in the coming age. Lord in your mercy,

**ALL** hear our prayer.

Presider All this we ask in the certainty of your love, in our longing for your return and in the promise of your coming again. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

BCP, pg 360

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All** 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**

Jonathan Halsey

*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**

*Eucharist Prayer B, BCP*

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 our 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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
 might, hea - ven 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.

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

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, 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)

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

*Please be seated.*

## **The Invitation to Holy Communion**

### **Communion Music**

Jonathan Halsey

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.*

### **Post Communion Prayer**

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**

*Please stand, as able.*

### **Recessional Hymn #135**

*Songs of thankfulness and praise*

### **The Dismissal**

### **Postlude**

Jonathan Halsey

### **Coming Lessons**

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

# Prayer List

**Intercessions:**

Antje & Bill, Bill, Bill Bedrossian, Bob Bamberg, Bobbie Clark, Brenda & Kelly Weems, Carl & Carol Greer, Cathy Davis, Charles & Christine McKelvy, Chuck & Sally Besaw, Diane & John, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Emily Buck, Gary Medley, Ina, Isabel Tomé, Jana, Janice Harrison, Jean Callison, Jesse James, JoAnn Andrews, Jonathan, Lucy, Lynn Ellis, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Maria Chance, Martha A, Rita Woodruff & Angelia Miller, Rudy McKnight, Savany Demmink, Stella Daniel, Vanita, and Wes Brinegar. We also pray for local neighbors that fear detention, the inmates & staff at River North Correction Center, Covenant House, and we pray for Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

**Departed:**

**Birthdays:** Joan Hoffman (Feb 16)

**Wedding Anniversaries & Thanksgivings:**

**Archbishop of Canterbury,** Sarah, **Presiding Bishop,** Sean, **our Bishop,** José, and **our Priest-in-Charge,** Karla

**In the Anglican Community:** The Church of the Province of Indian Ocean

**In the Diocese of WNC:** Lake Logan and Valle Crucis Conference Centers

**In Alleghany County:** Antioch Primitive Baptist Church

## The following people are assisting with the services

<b>Role</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jeanne Green	Jeanne Green
<b>Chalice bearer</b>	Bruce Smith	Nancy Wilson
<b>Lector I</b>	Jann Boggs	Bruce Smith
<b>Lector II</b>	Jann Boggs	Bruce Smith
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Jann Boggs	Bruce Smith
<b>Greeter(s)/Usher(s)</b>	Patti Phelps & Ruthie Maxwell	Patti Phelps

*If you would like a copy of today's sermon, please ask Karla or Mary Lee and they'll make a copy for you.*

### **Monthly Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Altar Flowers</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
Feb 15	Elizabeth Barr Bryant	Wanda McKnight with Patti Phelps
Feb 22	<i>Altar Guild</i>	Ruthie Maxwell
March 1	<i>Altar Guild</i>	
March 8	<i>Altar Guild</i>	

## **Schedule**

### **Sunday, February 15 – The Last Sunday after the Epiphany**

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

**12:00 – 1:30 pm – *Confirm not Conform* Intergenerational class**

### **Monday, February 16**

10:00 am – Vestry meeting

### **Tuesday, February 17**

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

### **Wednesday, February 18 – Ash Wednesday**

12:00 pm – Ash Wednesday service

### **Sunday, February 22 – The First Sunday in Lent**

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

6:00 pm – Taizé service

## **Announcements**

**Confirm not Conform: Intergenerational Confirmation classes led by The Rev Karla Woggon** The classes will be held once a month following worship services, and will be a place to ask questions about what it means to be an Episcopalian. Do you have questions about something that happens during the Sunday worship services or why the altar has different linen collars or when was the first Episcopal Church established? Bring any of your questions and plan to attend these classes. **The classes will be held once a month beginning TODAY, Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:30 pm.**

**We will be having an Ash Wednesday service THIS Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at noon**, and we invite you to join us as we begin the Lenten season.

**We will be having a Lenten Taizé service NEXT Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm.** Set your intention for a holy Lent while resting in God's loving presence. Rooted in simple chant, silence, and contemplative prayer, the Taizé service offers you a time to listen, to rest, and to open your heart to God's presence.

**If you have a pastoral need or would like home communion or a visit when you are sick or homebound, please contact Karla at [priest.christchurchspartanc@gmail.com](mailto:priest.christchurchspartanc@gmail.com) or 828.638.0533.**

**Office hour changes: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm.** On Wednesdays, Mary Lee will work from home and can be reached by email or text.

## **Confirm Not Conform begins TODAY!**

Rooted in Scripture, shaped by worship, and informed by reason and lived experience, this series invites participants not to memorize beliefs, but to discover how the Episcopal Church holds faith with humility, beauty, and depth. The class will serve as intergenerational confirmation preparation as well as a welcoming introduction to the Episcopal Church for those who are new, returning, or simply seeking a deeper understanding of our shared life of faith.

### **Monthly meetings Sunday from 12:00-1:30**

**Sunday Feb. 15: So, What's Our Story: The History of the Episcopal Church**

Sunday March 8: The Book of Common Prayer

Sunday April 19: Sacraments and the Church Year

Sunday May 17: The Baptismal Covenant

Sunday June 7: From Pain into Power (The Eucharist)



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## Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

Thursday, April 2

5:00 pm – Maundy Thursday service

Friday, April 3

12:00 pm – Good Friday service

Sunday, April 5 – Easter Sunday

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

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