



The Day of Pentecost, Year A
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

205 North Seventh St., Stroudsburg, PA 18360

“A welcoming, compassionate and healing community in Christ”

May 24, 2026

10:00am Service - Rite 2

Links to the Sunday (10AM) Livestream Service
and Service Bulletin available weekly

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

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

205 North Seventh St., Stroudsburg, PA 18360
(570) 421-7481 | Office hours Wed-Th 2-6pm
E-Mail: office@christchurchstroudsburg.org
Website: www.christchurchstroudsburg.org

“A welcoming, compassionate and healing community in Christ”

Diocese of the Susquehanna

Priest: The Rev. Bill Martin

Rt. Rev. Audrey Scanlan & Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, *Bishops*

VESTRY

Senior Warden – Carl A.

Jr. Warden – Cheryl C.

Clerk of Vestry – Chris S.

Patti A., Myra B., Debby C., Kevin F.,
Marcos G., Katina W., Sharon P.

LITURGY PARTICIPANTS

Celebrant: The Rev. Bill Martin

Lectors: Mike S. | Carl A.

Altar Assistant/Server: Anthony P.

Crucifer: TBD

Chalice Bearer: TBD

Music Director: Bethann K.

Choir: Patti A., Carol C., Deborah E., Suzanne P., Gail M., Tanya J.

Bell Choir: Patti A., Rose H., Gail M., Bobby P., Meghan P., Chris S.

Ushers/Greeters: Debbie C. | Tina W.

Counters: Chris N. | Jill A.

CHURCH STAFF

Church Admin – Andrea C.

Books in the Pews for Service

BCP – The Book of Common Prayer (**RED** book)

H – Hymnal (**BLUE** book)

WLP – Wonder, Love & Praise (**GREEN** book)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: (H 372) *Praise to the Living God*

1 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name
 2 Form - less, all love - ly forms de - clare his love - li - ness;
 3 His Spi - rit flow - eth free, high surg - ing where it will:
 4 E - ter - nal life hath he im - plant - ed in the soul;

who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.
 ho - ly, no ho - li - ness of earth can his ex - press.
 in pro - phet's word he spoke of old; he speak - eth still.
 his love shall be our strength and stay while a - ges roll.

The one e - ter - nal God ere aught that now ap - pears:
 Lo, he is Lord of all. Cre - a - tion speaks his praise,
 Es - tab - lished is his law, and change - less it shall stand,
 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his Name

the first, the last, be - yond all thought his time - less years!
 and ev - ery - where a - bove, be - low, his will o - beys.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea, on land.
 who was, and is, and is to be, for ay the same.

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ is Risen.

People The Lord is Risen Indeed.

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 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.**

OPENING ANTHEM - *Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis* (S 236)

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord
God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you
for the ra - diance of your ho - ly Name; we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to

you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -

ween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying

to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷“In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 104:25-35, 37

²⁵O Lord, how manifold are your works! *
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁶Yonder is the great and wide sea
with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.

²⁷There move the ships,
and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.

²⁸All of them look to you *
to give them their food in due season.

²⁹You give it to them; they gather it; *
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

³⁰You hide your face, and they are terrified; *
you take away their breath,
and they die and return to their dust.

³¹You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *
and so you renew the face of the earth.

³²May the glory of the Lord endure forever; *
may the Lord rejoice in all his works.

³³He looks at the earth and it trembles; *
he touches the mountains and they smoke.

³⁴I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; *
I will praise my God while I have my being.

³⁵May these words of mine please him; *
I will rejoice in the Lord.

³⁷Bless the Lord, O my soul. *
Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

The people sit.

A Reading from First Corinthians.

^{3b}No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: *Bless the Lord O my soul (WLP 825)*

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God’s holy name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me into life.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-23

All stand.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

John 20:19-23 (Read in many languages)

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN: *Bless the Lord O my soul (WLP 825)*

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me into life.

THE SERMON

THE CREED (BCP p. 358)

Please stand as you are able.

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 worshipped 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 359)

All remain standing.

Great are the deeds of the Lord! Sisters and brothers, let us pray, saying,
“Christ, hear our prayer! Jesus, have mercy on us!”

May your Church be faithful, even as you are faithful. May we and your whole Church
unashamedly work to further the gospel. May we overcome whatever apathy or
distraction might threaten our witness.

Silence

Christ, hear our prayer!

Jesus, have mercy on us!

May the nations of the world seek wisdom and truth. We pray for Sean, our Presiding
Bishop, for Audrey and Kevin, our own Bishops, Bill our Priest and Barbara our Canon
Missioner. In our country we pray for Donald our President, and Josh our Governor.
May people, rich and poor, powerful and weak, find in you the source of healing and
wholeness. In our congregation we pray for Samara Bush, Carolyn Cabell and the
Campbell and Casey families. In the Diocese of the Susquehanna, we pray for St. Peter’s
Hazelton; Chapel of the Good Shepherd, Hawk Run; and New Bethany Ministries,

Bethlehem. In Kajo Keji we pray for Mutongo Parish. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence

Christ, hear our prayer!

Jesus, have mercy on us!

May we protect and guard the created order. May we recognize the majesty and splendor of all you have made. May we remember that healthy waters, sky, and land make us healthier people.

Silence

Christ, hear our prayer!

Jesus, have mercy on us!

May we be ever compassionate toward those who are pushed into the margins of our society. Give us open hearts that welcome and open hands that touch. Teach us a love that crosses boundaries and borders.

Silence

Christ, hear our prayer!

Jesus, have mercy on us!

May the sick and suffering know in their bodies and minds your healing power. You desire to make men and women clean of disease and stigma; make your grace known.

O Lord our God, restore to health those who cry out to you, especially Isaac, Janet, Nick, Lynn, Gail, Anthony, Oliver, Lorelai, Marshall, Richard, Antonia, Rebecca, June, Barbara, Eliza, Margaret, Berni, Julian, Noel, Mike, Chris, Frank, Zach, Laura, Jo, Loretta, Brianna, Renee, Mary and Jim E, Jodi, David, Denise and Jay.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence

Christ, hear our prayer!

Jesus, have mercy on us!

May those who have died, especially Wilton Clarke, know the salvation found in you, Christ Jesus. Preserve the living in the enduring hope that, just as we are baptized into your death, so will we also live with you forever.

Silence

Christ, hear our prayer!

Jesus, have mercy on us!

Celebrant

We give thanks, great God, for the hope we have in Jesus, who died but is risen and rules over all. We praise you for his presence with us. Because he lives, we look for eternal life, knowing that

nothing past, present, or yet to come can separate us from your great love made known in Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

**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 stands and 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.**

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSINGS

Altar flowers are given in memory of **Howard Alleger** by Patti Alleger

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

OFFERTORY: Music Meditation

OFFERTORY HYMN *From all that dwell below the skies Verse 3* (H 380)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B (BCP 367)

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

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

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down [on this day] 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: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (WLP 858)

Celebrant and People

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. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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 say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 364)

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

***[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]***

FRACTION ANTHEM: (S 154) Christ our Passover (*Alleluia, Alleluia*)

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.

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

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.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

You can remain seated until you come forward to receive. When you receive the consecrated bread, you can consume it then drink from the first cup of consecrated wine. You can also hold the bread to “intinct” or touch the tip of the bread into the second cup of wine. You may also choose to receive Communion in only one kind. If you would like a blessing, come forward and cross your hands over your heart to indicate you would like to be blessed. Gluten free wafers are available. Please let the priest know as you come forward. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [**Amen.**]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [**Amen.**]

COMMUNION HYMN: *ELW 887: This Is My Song*

1. This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.

This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
 and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
 But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
 and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.
 So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.

3. This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
 your kingdome come; on earth your will be done.
 O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
 and hearts united learn to live as one.
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;
 myself I give you; let your will be done.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

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.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: (WLP 751) *Ev'ry time I feel the spirit*

Harmony

Ev' - ry time I feel the spir - it, mov - ing

in my heart, I will pray. Ev' - ry time I feel the

Fine

spir - it, mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

unison

1. Up on the moun - tain my Lord spoke, out of his
 2. Jor - dan ri - ver chil - ly and cold, chills the

(7)

mouth came fire and smoke. All a - round me looked so
 bod - y but not the soul. There ain't but one train runs this

D.C.

fine, asked my Lord if all was mine.
 track, runs to heav - en and runs right back.

DISMISSAL (BCP 340)

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

