



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024  
THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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Opening Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #427 - When morning gilds the skies (verses 1-3)*

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart, a - wak - ing, cries,  
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heaven is known

1 may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning sha - dows fall,  
2 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
3 than, Je - sus Christ be praised! There to the e - ter - nal Word

1 this rings my cur - few call, may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
2 hath none that can com - pare with: Je - sus Christ be praised!  
3 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

Words: German, ca. 1800; tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt. Music: *Laudes Domini*, Joseph Barnby (1838-1896).

## The Word of God

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

*People* ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

*The Celebrant continues*

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.***

*All say together a song of praise*

***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.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* 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.*

**[The people may be seated for the readings]**

**A Reading from the Second Kings (2:1 - 12),**

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord

*People*        ***Thanks be to God***

### **Psalm 50:1-6**

1 The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; \*  
    he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*  
    God reveals himself in glory.

3 Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*  
    before him there is a consuming flame,  
    and round about him a raging storm.

4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*  
    to witness the judgment of his people.

5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*  
    those who have made a covenant with me  
    and sealed it with sacrifice."

6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
    for God himself is judge.

## A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians (4:3 - 6),

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord

*People*            *Thanks be to God*

## Sequence Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #129* - Christ upon the mountain peak

1 Christ up - on the moun - tain peak            stands a - lone in  
2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw            Mo - ses and E -  
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came.            God pro - claim - ing  
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son!            Law and pro - phets

glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,  
li - jah speak - ing. All the pro - phets and the Law  
in its thun - der Je - sus as his Son by name!  
fade be - fore him; first and last and on - ly One,

with the saints and an - gels praise him. Al - le - lu - ia!  
shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Na - tions cry a - loud in won - der! Al - le - lu - ia!  
let cre - a - tion now a - dore him! Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). Copyright © 1977 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Music: *Mowsley*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1985 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

**[Please stand for the proclamation of the Gospel]**

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (9:2 - 9)  
*People*            ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*Reader*            The Gospel of the Lord  
*People*            ***Praise to you, Lord Christ***

## **Sermon**

### **The Nicene Creed [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 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.

## **The Prayers of the People – Form IV [The people may be seated]**

*Deacon or other leader*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayers, we pray for The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

On the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Togendowagen Society at St. Peter's Cathedral. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

Within our parish family, we pray for Candace, Danielle, Jennie, Jerry, Justin, Laura, Libby, Michael, Richard, and Woody.

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sins and Absolution**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*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 Bishop when present, or 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**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people [Please stand, as you are able]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*      ***And also with you.***

## **Offertory Sentences**

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due His Name; bring offerings and come into His courts.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Psalm*

*96:8, Ephesians 5:2*



## Offertory Hymn: *Hymnal 1982* ##137 - O wondrous type! O vision fair (verses 1-3)

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair of glo - ry  
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in - car - nate  
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ deigns to

1 that the Church may share, which Christ up - on the  
 2 Lord holds con - verse high; and from the cloud, the  
 3 man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be

1 moun - tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!  
 2 Ho - ly One bears re - cord to the on - ly Son.  
 3 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1848-1866), alt. Music: *Wareham*, melody William Knapp (1698-1768); alt.; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, after James Turl (1802-1882); desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947). Descant by permission of the Royal School of Church Music.

## Anthem

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)  
 Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

## HOLY COMMUNION - Eucharistic Prayer A [Please stand, as you are able]

*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 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. 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

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. \_\_\_\_\_

*Then the Celebrant continues* [People may stand or kneel]

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 are yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Officiant and People*

*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

*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.

*Celebrant then says*

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 are welcome at the Lord's Table at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.*

*Communion in one kind (the bread or the wine) is just as valid as communion in both kinds.*

*If you would like to receive a blessing instead of receiving communion, simply come forward with your arms crossed. Gluten-free wafers are available, please inform the greeter/usher as soon as possible.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*  
Let us pray.

**Post-Communion Prayer [People may stand or kneel]**

*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;  
and for assuring us in these holy 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.*

**Blessing**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Announcements**

Recessional Hymn: *Hymnal 1982* ##460 - Alleluia! sing to Jesus! (verses 1-3)

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the  
 \*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the  
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is  
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the  
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the  
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a  
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty  
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery  
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his  
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.  
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

*Celebrant*  
*People*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*Thanks be to God.*





*"Transfiguration of Christ" by Peter Paul Rubens, 17th century*

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