LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

FEBRUARY 11, 2024 ■ 10:30 A.M.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

St. Stephen's is a community of people made more complete by the grace of a perfect God, who proclaim the Gospel by sharing the reconciling love of Christ with others through redeeming acts of hospitality, forgiveness, justice, and peace.

ORDER OF SERVICE

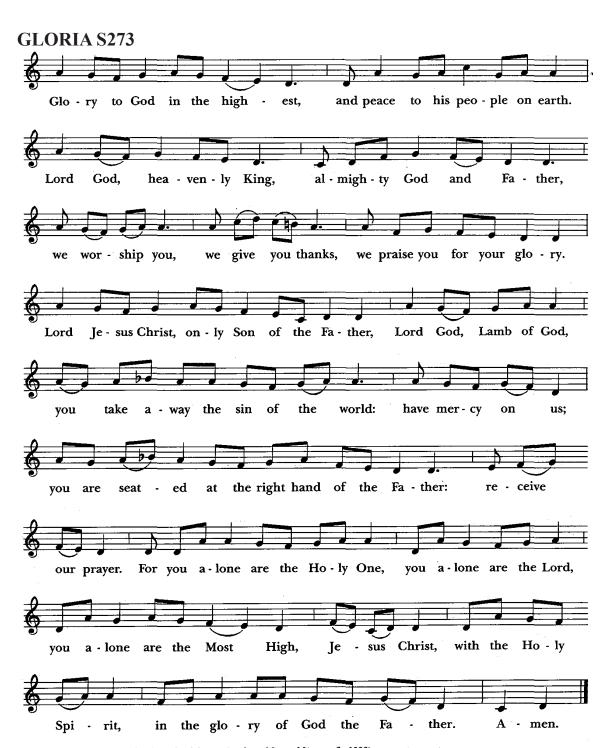
VOLUNTARY Improvisation on *Jesu dulcis memoria*

HYMN 7 *Christ, whose glory fills the skies* Ratisbon (*Please stand as you are able.*)

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

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

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.**



Setting: Plainsong, Mode 7; Mass 13 (12th cent.); adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

(Please stand or kneel as you are able.)

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 LESSONS (*Please be seated.*)

The First Reading: 2 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 Deus deorum

(Please stand as you are able. The psalm will be read responsively by whole verse.)

- 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.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

The Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (Please be seated.)

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.**

(Please stand as you are able.)

The Gospel: Mark 9:2-9 (Please stand.)

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. David Wyly

THE NICENE CREED (All stand.)

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

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

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV

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, especially Betty Anderson, Randy Anderson, Glenda Futch, Ed Futch, Debby Hickey, Paul Jeffreys, Marguerite Pennington, Pat Sasser, Marjorie Snyder, Betsy Toomey and John Wolfe; 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 give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week: Ashley Fleming, Adrienne Northington, Thomas Yarboro, Autumn Griffin, Clem Livengood and Cale Sumrell.

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.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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 PEACE

(Please stand as you are able.)

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

OFFERTORY

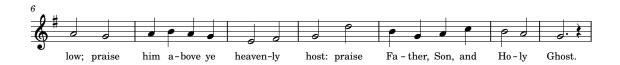
Christ is the World's True Light

W.K. Stanton

AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

(Please stand as you are able.)







THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

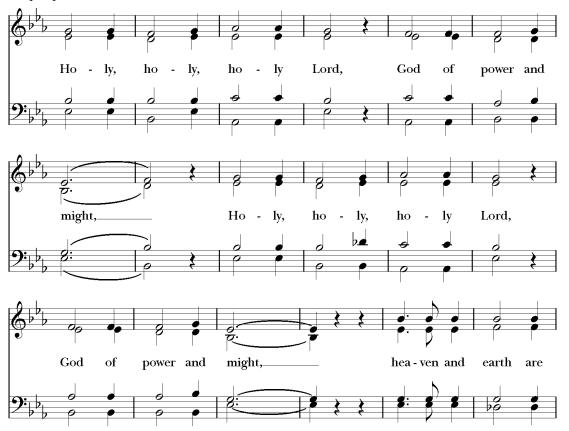
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface is added.) Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus S130

The people stand or kneel.





Then 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

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.**

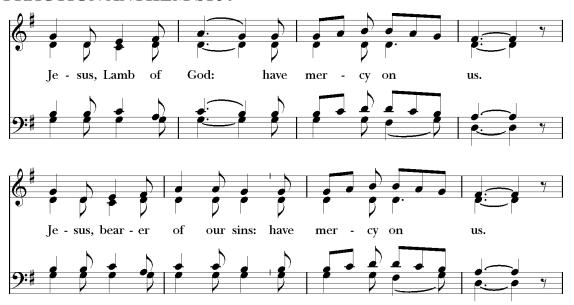
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

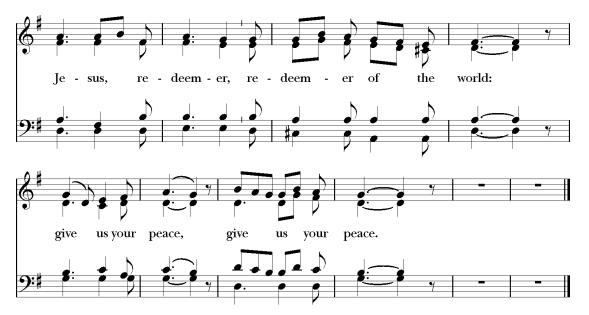
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

FRACTION ANTHEM S164





Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation: The Gifts of God for the People of God

All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward at the appropriate time. You may receive both the bread and wine, one or the other, come forward for a blessing, or remain seated.

HYMN 134

O light of Light, Love given birth

Jesu dulcis memoria

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Let the Heaven Light Shine On Me

Roland Carter

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

(Please kneel as you are able.)

Celebrant and People

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.

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

THE BLESSING

HYMN 137 O wondrous type! O vision fair Wareham (Please stand as you are able.)

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY Praeludium in C Hermann Schroeder

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for Will's birthday by the Bland Family Circus.

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. David Wyly
Organist: Patrick Ritsch
Ushers: Geoff Hulse & Kyle Saylors
Eucharistic Visitors: Bob & Jan Cagle
Live Stream Technician: James Ruggles

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Prayer Requests						
raise Repo						

If you would like to leave a prayer request or a praise report please write them in the space provided, tear this page out of your bulletin, and leave it on the table in the back of the church. Our Clergy and Prayer Team will be delighted to pray for you!



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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Rev. David Wyly
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CHURCH STAFF

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cunninghamjane04@gmail.com
Church Sexton: Alfie Barnes

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Betty Duncan, Junior Warden: David Huard,

Treasurer: Bob Cagle, Clerk: Nancy Headen

Other Vestry Members Include: Class of 2024: Meredith Adams

Class of 2025: Todd Brantley, Susan Brown, Gwyn LaFave Class of 2026: Don Barnes, Ashley Fleming, Beth Saylors, Larry Tingen