



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

The Last Sunday After Epiphany
February 11, 2024 • 10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist Rite II

The service begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer and is printed here in its entirety.

The Opening Voluntary

Alleulia! Sing to Jesus
Hobby

The Processional Hymn

Songs of thankfulness and praise
Hymnal 135

The Liturgy of the Word

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

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

The People say together

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.

The Gloria

Hymnal S 280

The Collect of the Day

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 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm ~ 50:1 - 6 (See page 12 of the bulletin.)

Sung by the choir and congregation alternating as indicated.

Last Epiphany Sunday Rite Two 2

The Second Reading ~ 2 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Sequence Hymn

Christ upon the mountain peak
Hymnal 129

The Holy Gospel ~ Mark 9:2 - 9

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey

A period of silent prayer.

The Nicene Creed

All say together

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 VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader For all people in their daily life and work;
People *For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

Leader For this community, the nation, and the world;
People *For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

Leader For the just and proper use of your creation;
People *For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

Leader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People *For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

Leader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People *For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

Leader For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Rob, our Bishop; and John,
our priest; and for all bishops and other ministers;
People *For all who serve God in his Church.*

For our Nominating Committee, Philip, Lisa, Kasey, Brother, Katie, J.J., and Bill, and for our Vestry, Marianne, Tony, Marge, Anne, Mary Frances, Polly, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Roy that they may be guided by your Holy Spirit. For those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially Kathy, Richard, Kevin, and April.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and all those on our prayer list, especially Connie, Sue, and Kathryn.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Leader Hear us, Lord;
People *For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;
People *And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, especially Red, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Leader Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People *Who put their trust in you.*

The Prayer In Times of Conflict [*prayed by all*]

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
{BCP page 824}

Leader We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Announcements

The Blessings and Thanksgivings

The Offertory Sentence

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

Jubilate Deo Omnis Terra
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

The Presentation Hymn

O wondrous type! O vision fair
Hymnal 137

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. 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:

The Sanctus

Hymnal S 129

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 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, 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 St. Paul and 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.

The Great Amen

S 146



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

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, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 154

Holy Communion is offered via the common cup for sipping or intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. A mobility impaired individual can receive communion at your seat by raising your hand.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion Anthem

Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether
Harold Friedell

The Communion Hymn

Please stand at the last verse

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor
Hymnal 307 vs1,4,5

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

Prayer for those Not Receiving the Blessed Sacrament

[Adapted from Saint Augustine's Prayer Book. For those not present in the Nave.]

Blessed Jesus, in union with the faithful of every place and people and nation, I join in offering the sacrifice of my praise and thanksgiving to you. I believe that you are truly present in the Bread that has been blessed, broken and given. Since I cannot now receive this holy sacrament, I pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Abide with me, that I may embrace you entirely, and submit myself to your love and mercy. Let me never be separated from you, that in my waking and in my sleeping I may know the comfort of your presence. I ask this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
Hymnal 460

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

The Closing Voluntary

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Arr. Hamlin

Remember in your Prayers

A Prayer to Start My Day (From The Daughters of the King): Lord, You have given me another day of life; let me celebrate this day, and let me use it according to Your plan. I praise You, Father, for my life and for the friends and family members who make it rich. Enable me to live each moment to the fullest as I give thanks for Your creation, for Your love, and for Your Son. Amen.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Roger Hines, Elisabeth Stubbs, Bo Warren, Gloria Crook, Ernie Williams, Courtney McCulley, Andrew Davis, Saralyn Singletary, Magnolia McCulley, Bella Pacini, Connie Edge, Sue Woodward, Kathryn Martin.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Greg Parsons, Annie Bulford, Kelsey Crow, Anne Murphy, Glenn L. Eaton, David Waldron, Larry Sams, Jim Myrick, Candy Waldron, Ashton Hughes, Lanie Mae Henderson, Lamar Toole, Elizabeth Briscoe, William 'Parker' Johnson, Christian Llosa.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Marianne, Tony, Marge, Anne, Mary Frances, Polly, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Roy and for the Staff: Canon John, Nicole, Rhett, Dawn, Geoff, Cole, Nicole, Kimberly.

We pray for members of the Rector Nominating Committee: Philip Hand, Lisa Beerman, Kasey Bulford, Brother Massenburg, Katie McBride-Newman, J.J. Thomasson, and Bill Tudor.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg, Ryan Whitfield, Stephen Malcom, Victoria Eversoll, Trey Bland.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Kathy Brown, Richard Candler, Kevin Wendelburg, and April Roberts.

We pray for those who have died, especially Red Benefield. Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.

Service Participants

Vestry Person of the Week	Marge Bass
Vergers	Frankey Henderson & Katie McBride-Newman
Eucharistic Ministers	Elizabeth Pape & Scott Seiler
Acolytes	Adele Bulford (1st); India Camp (2nd); Sydney Pape (Banner); David Pape & Matthew Hand (Torchbearers)
Reader(s)	Marianne Lawhead
Prayer Intercessors	Anne Graner & Frank West
Ushers	Mike Scott, Mike Gallagher, Chris Howell, Amy Jones, Daryl Jones, Brother Massenburg, Michele Mattera, & Bill Stemberger
Altar Guild	Amanda Hand & Louise Howard
Flower Guild	Cathy Sandlin

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Lauren and Stanford Jones in loving memory of Bill Jones.*

Parish Notices

Foyer Group: The French meaning of the word Foyer is hearth or hearthside and evokes an image of warmth and comfort. St. Paul's has for many years encouraged the formation of small informal Parish gatherings called Foyer Groups; small, close-knit groups of parishioners sharing a common bond of



Christian love and concern for one another. For more details about a foyer group and to sign up to participate in a foyer group, please use the QR code.

Adult Formation: Classes will resume this Sunday. Join Nicole Walters, Seminarian, for Adult Formation at 9:30 am each Sunday for the next few weeks of an exploration of Contemplative Prayer. We will discuss concepts from *Armchair Mystic (no book necessary)*.

2024 Budget: Join Renee Powell, Treasurer, and Brother Massenburg, Chairman of the Finance Committee, for a meeting about the 2024 Budget. They will review the budget and take any questions. The meeting will be after the 10:30 am service in the Parish Library.

Shrove Tuesday: Join us for our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner on Tuesday, February 13th at 6 pm in the parish hall. We will prepare, decorate, and bury Alleluias that will be retrieved on Easter. We also will have entertainment by the *Gordon Vernick Trio Jazz Band*.

Ash Wednesday: This year we will offer three services on Ash Wednesday that will include the imposition of ashes. The first service is at 6:30 am; the second service is the Community Lenten service at 12 pm, when Rev. Matt Sapp of Central Baptist Church will be preaching; and the third service is at 7 pm.

2024 Stewardship Campaign: There are 2024 Stewardship Campaign brochures and response cards available in the Narthex. To make sure that we receive your pledge and contributions, please drop off your pledge and contributions in the offering plate or drop off at Nicole's office. There is the QR code to go directly to the pledge campaign page in Realm.



The Daughters of the King: Information pamphlets are available on the bulletin board outside of the parish hall for anyone interested in learning more about The Daughters of the King. We welcome any prospective members!

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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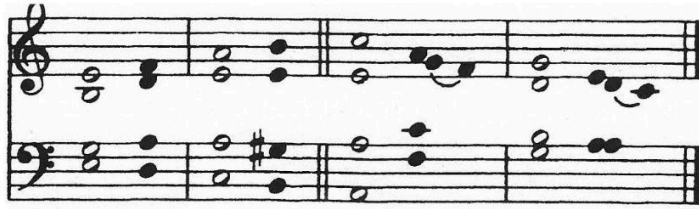
CLERGY AND Staff

Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey, Interim Rector; **Nicole Walters**, Seminarian; **Rhett Barnwell**, Organist/Choirmaster; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Director; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate; **Nicole Edwards**, Parish Administrator; **Kimberly Stokes**, Financial Administrator.

VESTRY

Marianne Lawhead, Senior Warden; **Tony King**, Junior Warden; **Marge Bass**, Health & Healing; **Anne Graner**, Outreach; **Mary Frances Honea**, Strategic Visioning; **Polly Hopkins**, Formation; **Sarah Huxford**, Stewardship; **Elizabeth Pape**, Parish Life; **Roy Reynolds**, Communications.

Psalm 50 (Frazier)



- CHOIR 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.
- ALL 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 a/bove *
to witness the judgment of his /people.**
- CHOIR 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.