

St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

Ocean City, Maryland



Epiphany

January 7, 2024

Holy Eucharist—Rite II

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings; I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Processional Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #76

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

The Celebrant may say

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 following hymn sung, all standing

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

² That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

- ³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- ⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- ⁶ He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- ¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- ¹¹ All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
- ¹² For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- ¹³ He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

The Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its

rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #116

1. "I come," the great Redeemer cries,
"To do thy will, O Lord!"
At Jordan's stream, behold!
He seals the sure prophetic word.
2. "Thus it becomes to fulfill
all righteousness," he said.
Then, faithful to the Lord's commands,
through Jordan's flood was led.
3. Hark, a glad voice! The Father speaks
from heaven's exalted height:
"This is my Son, my well-beloved
in whom I take delight."

Gospel

Then, all standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with

him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #116

4. The Savior Jesus, well-beloved!

His Name we will profess,

like him desirous to fulfill

God's will in righteousness.

5. No more we'll count ourselves our own
but his in bonds of love.

Oh, may such bonds for ever draw
our souls to things above!

The Sermon *Pastor Jill Williams*

On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing

The Nicene Creed

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

We pray for all your faithful people, and those who are called to lead, that we may walk in your way of love and manifest your love in the world.

Shine your light on your Church, Lord.

We pray for all the nations of the world, that those in authority will work toward peace and equity for all their people.

Shine your light on the nations, Lord.

We pray for people everywhere, that their lives may be full, that their families may be secure, that their hearts be filled with your peace.

Shine your light on all your children, Lord.

We pray for the community in which we live, the neighbors care for neighbors creating a truly caring community for all.

Shine your light on on this community, Lord.

We pray for those who are suffering in ways that are known or hidden to us. We pray for those who struggle mightily in this life and those whose light is dimming. For those who are ill and those who care for them. For those who are born today and those who will die.

Shine your light into the seasons and the passages of our lives, Lord.

We pray for those who have been called into larger life with you, especially Mary Wright. In thanksgiving for them, we pray.

Shine your perpetual light upon them, Lord.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people stand or kneel.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Holy Communion

Offertory

The Celebrant says to the people

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and
sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Everyone is welcome at the table of the Lord and is invited to communion! At the altar rail, you will be offered the host first, which will be placed in your hand. Please respond "Amen." Then the wine will be offered to you to drink from the common cup. [We no longer intinct.](#) If you are not yet comfortable returning to drinking from the common cup, you may either return to your seat after receiving the host, or you may choose to cross your arms over your chest when the chalice is offered and simply respond "Amen," therefore reverencing the sacrament. We believe that we are fully communed after receiving the sacrament in one form, so any of these choices would be fully acceptable. If you do not wish to receive communion, or you have not yet been baptized, you are still invited to come up to the altar rail for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest when offered the host and Pastor Jill will say a blessing over you. You may then return to your seat. If you interested in learning more about baptism and full entrance into our worshipping community, please contact Pastor Jill at Pastorjill@stpaulsbythesea.org.

The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Eucharistic Prayer C

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of
glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of
interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses,
and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us
the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed
your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets
and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the
fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to
fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly
chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all
those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to
proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
*We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.*

Lord God of our fathers and mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sara, Rebecca, Rachel and Lea, God of Israel, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

The people say:
AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, let us say together
the Lord's Prayer, in whatever language you are most comfortable.

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

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.]

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately
deliver it to the people.*

Using the center aisle, proceed to the Altar rail. Once you have received communion, return to your seat using the side aisles.

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 Hymns

Hymnal 1982, #121 & 339

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

Recessional Hymn:

Hymnal 1982, #616

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,

his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2 He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall bow down before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

5 O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all blessing and all blest;
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;

his Name shall stand for ever,
his changeless Name of Love.

Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Welcome to St. Paul's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

All baptized Christians, of any age & denomination, are welcome to receive communion. ****Gluten Free Wafer** are available.

Prayer List

Robbie Whittington Joyce, Cindy Dreslin, Kyle Harmon, Shirley Connor, Jose Cabrera, Ryan Fischer, Katlyn, Letty Trimper Hurst, Connie Mayers, Doug Dryden, Brian Friedman, Grace, Randy Hastings, Frank Candeloro, Jr., John Seward, Stephanie Hill, Douglas Allan, Yvetta Henry Tull, Jean Charles, Jimmy Farley, Alex Hoffman, Jonathan Jones, Larry Lorton, The Lecates Family, The People of Ukraine, Michael Hallett, Hannah Johnson, Hugh Smith, Ralph Hastings, Frank Avallone, Liana Wallman, Susan Lewis, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Christine Zellner, Brian, Nicoya, Tom Belle, Aaron Call, Christine Bauerdorf, Victims of the Hawaiian Wildfires, Lynn Anstatt, Peggy Hartman, Kathy Jersin, Mary Mitchell, Wendy O'Donoghue, Christina Hartman, Patrick O'Malley, Chris Ellis, David Twining, Corey Bowman, Roger Ballard, Beverly Cooper, Aniyah Adams, Levon Davis, Andy Hales, Roger Thomas, Suzy Young, Alan Farley

This Week We Pray For ...

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: The Diocese has not yet posted the 2024 prayers.

Birthdays: Julie Smith

Anniversaries: John & Karen Bunting