

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

Ocean City, Maryland



Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 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, #437

1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy Name— the Lord, the Mighty One.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth:
Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your
peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

¹⁵The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111

¹ Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the deeds of the Lord! *

they are studied by all who delight in them.

³ His work is full of majesty and splendor, *

and his righteousness endures for ever.

⁴ He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *

the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

⁵ He gives food to those who fear him; *

he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works *

in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *

all his commandments are sure.

- ⁸ They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸“Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #493

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy Name.

3 Jesus! the Name that charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

4 He speaks; and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

Gospel

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

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

²¹They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One

of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual Hymn

Hymnal 1982, #493

5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold, your Savior comes;
and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

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

Let us pray to God, who is made manifest in Jesus Christ. We come before you on this day in Epiphany, seeking your guidance and wisdom.

Empower our church O God, that it may be a beacon of light and hope in a world that is often dark and uncertain.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our Prayer.

As King David wrote, “For the kingdom is the Lord’s and He rules over the nations,” therefore, send your blessings, O God, on this Nation and every nation, that they may be guided by your wisdom and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As John the Baptist guided crowds of people to the edge of the wilderness and baptized Jesus in the River Jordan, we pray that you guide our leaders to the ways of justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Like the Magi who brought gifts to celebrate Jesus’ birth, we pray for our community and those who celebrate their own birthdays and anniversaries; especially.....

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As the Apostle Matthew scripted, “Jesus went throughout Galilee... healing every disease and sickness among the people,” we pray for all those who suffer or in trouble, , that they may find comfort and healing in your love.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

According to the Apostle John, Jesus said , “No one comes to the Father except through me.” We pray for all those we love and who answered your call to follow Jesus to your Heavenly Kingdom. Give them your peace. Especially...

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As the Apostle Paul echoed, “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,” so we pray for ourselves, that we may be faithful servants of your will, and that we may always seek to do your good works in the world.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

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, #339 & 448

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, #530

1 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound;

2 Word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save;

3 Word of how the Savior's love
earth's sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need,
through his death the world is freed;

4 Word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus' name;
how his never-failing love
guides us on to heaven above.

5 Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light.

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, Mary Delaney

This Week We Pray For ...

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Lay Leadership, Wardens, Vestry and People of St. Paul's, Trappe; and in Thanksgiving for the Work of the Members of the Board of Managers, as they celebrate 14 years of investment leadership and stewardship of diocesan funds.