

# ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH 7 EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 23, 2025

To Lift People Up As Christ Calls

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Thank you for joining us today. Many of us gathered here today were not raised in The Episcopal Church, but have come to find in this parish a source of spiritual growth. If you are new to St. Christopher's or visiting with us today, please fill out one of the visitor's cards found in the pews and put it in the offering plate or give it to one of the ushers.

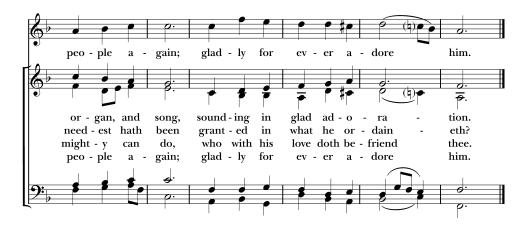
Our nursery is not staffed, but feel free to use the facilities with your children. We also offer activity bags in the vestibule for children of all ages. Children in preschool through 8th grade are encouraged to go to Children's Chapel or Tween Time for age-appropriate worship with their friends. The kids return at the passing of the peace.

We invite you to join us for refreshments in the parish hall following the service. Please feel free to introduce yourself to any of us if we don't get to you first.

Young

## Prelude Prelu Opening Prayer Processional Hymn 390





Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Lobe den Herren*, melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971). Descant, Copyright © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

# THE WORD OF GOD

### Versicle and Response

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 Collect of Purity

### The Celebrant says

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.*  Gloria

Hymnal S-280





Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

### The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

*People* Amen.

### The Lessons

First Lesson: Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 Insert Insert



Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Insert

Gradual Hymn 593



Words: James Quinn (b. 1919), based on a prayer att. to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Copyright © James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division on Cassell Ltd. Music: *Dickinson College*, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr. (1923-1979). Copyright © 1962, Theodore Presser Co. used by permission of the publisher.

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

People

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

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After the Gospel, the Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

# The Sermon

Moment of Silent Reflection

The people stand.

# 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

The Spirit of God dwells within us, let us pray in the Spirit for the needs of all creation, saying: God of light, *hear our prayer*.

For the Church: remembering especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Daniel our bishop, that in all things we may be signs of God's compassion and mercy. God of light, *hear our prayer*.

For this Parish Family, especially Hillary and Kristen our priests, and Andrew our brother priest, that we may heed the call of the Lord to turn the other cheek, go the extra mile, and love our enemies. God of light, *hear our prayer*.

For conversion of our hearts, that God will free us from returning evil for evil and help us confront evil with love and mercy. God of light, *hear our prayer*.

For all who have been our enemies, whether politically, economically or personally, that we may let go of hurts and grudges, and seek new paths of understanding. God of light, *hear our prayer*. For Donald our President, Joshua our Governor, and for the leaders of the nations who seek to ease tensions and hostility where war and violence persist, that they may come to a new understanding of mutual concerns and open new pathways for peace and justice to prevail. God of light, *hear our prayer*.

For all who are suffering, that God will free them from fear, bring justice to those who are wronged, hope to those grieving and in despair, and healing to the sick, remembering especially Richard, Thomas, Catherine, M.L., Darryl, Jim, Liam, Linda, Jenny, John, Mark, Dorothy, Ben, Karen, Melissa, Merrill, Herb, and for those we now name either silently or aloud (pause); God of light, *hear our prayer*.

For those who have died, remembering especially Doris who died last week, for Larry in whose loving memory the altar flowers have been given, and for those we now name either silently or aloud (pause); that they may be raised in glory and inherit the place prepared for them. God of ligh*t, hear our prayer.* 

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Saint Christopher and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *To you, O Lord our God.* 

Celebrant God of mercy and love, hear our prayers and grant that we may show your perfect love in our lives, and know its fulfillment in your presence, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

### Celebrant 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.

### Absolution

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 Welcome and Concerns Offertory Sentence Offertory Anthem Since By Man Came Death from *Messiah* Handel Presentation of Alms and Oblations Doxology *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.* 

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer A

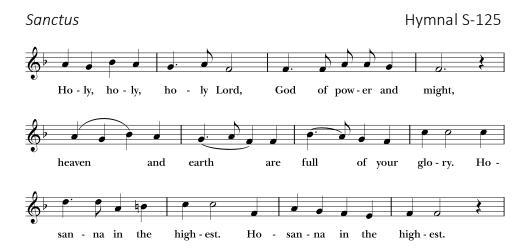
Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

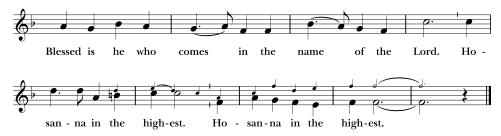
The Celebrant proceeds

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 sung or said

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:





Music: From A Community Mass; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

### The people kneel

#### The Celebrant continues

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

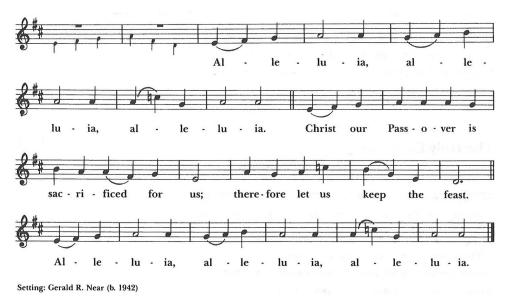
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

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 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. Fraction Anthem, Jesus, Lamb of God

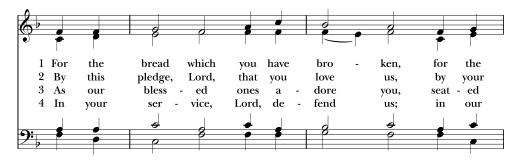


#### Celebrant

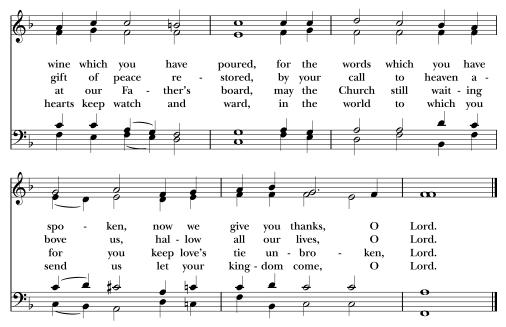
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### The Communion of the People

All who seek a closer relationship with God are invited to receive communion. Congregants are invited to leave their pews starting at the front of the church and working back. If intinction is your preference, please sanitize your hands first.



### Communion Hymn 341



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### Prayer after Communion

### 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.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn 657

all ex - cell - ing, of 1 Love di vine, loves joy heaven, to al 2 Come, might to de - liv er, let us all thv y -Fi - nish then pure spot -3 thy new cre tion; and less а ø fix thy hum - ble dwell - ing, earth come down, in us all thv life den - ly and nev - er, re ceive: sud re - turn, nev - er let be; let see thy great sal va - tion per - fect us us faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je sus. thou art all com - pas - sion, more thy leave. Thee bless - ing, tem ples would be al way we ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo ry in to glo - ry, bound ed love thou art; it with pure, un vis us serve thee as thy hosts а bove, pray, and praise thee till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our d ₫ d  $\overline{\mathbf{n}}$ thy tion, trem-bling heart. sal va en ter ev ery per - fect with out ceas ing, glo ry in thy love. in crowns be - fore thee, lost won der, love, and praise.

The DismissalLet us go forth in the Name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.PeopleThanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.PostludeAll Glory, Laud, and HonorLeavitt

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).