

The Last Sunday after Epiphany

February 15, 2026

THE HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

10:00 am



The Transfiguration of Christ by Earl Mott (American, 2016)

The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal)
Knowing • Loving • Serving
God + Neighbor

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The Word of God

The Prelude

O Jesus, My Life's Light

arr. Max Drischner

Please stand as you are able as the bell is rung.

The Opening Hymn 381 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

Tony Botel

Celebrant Blessed be God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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 Collect of the Day

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

Please be seated for the scripture appointed.

The Lessons

A reading from the Book of Exodus (24:12-18)

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Psalm 2 (*Prayed antiphonally by whole verse, alternating between East and West.*)

1 Why are the nations in an uproar? *
 Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

**2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
 and the princes plot together, *
 against the Lord and against his Anointed?**

3 “Let us break their yoke,” they say; *
 “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

**4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
 the Lord has them in derision.**

5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
 and his rage fills them with terror.

**6 “I myself have set my king *
 upon my holy hill of Zion.”**

7 Let me announce the decree of the Lord: *
 he said to me, “You are my Son;
 this day have I begotten you.

**8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
 and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
 and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

**10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
 be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

11 Submit to the Lord with fear, *
 and with trembling bow before him;

**12 Lest he be angry and you perish; *
 for his wrath is quickly kindled.**

13 Happy are they all *
 who take refuge in him!

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter (1:16-21)

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able for the sequence hymn and the reading of the gospel.

The Sequence Hymn 137 O wonderous type!

Wareham

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

Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Please stand as you are able for the creed; you may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers as your personal piety guides you.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

In the transfiguring light of divine love, we offer our prayers before God.

For the Holy Church of God throughout the world, that we may be witnesses of Christ's Gospel of love to all people, speak God's truth and stand with those in any kind of need. For the continuing worship and work of our own parish family.

Enlighten the church, O God.

For Julia, our bishop, and for all who minister in and from the church, that they may proclaim with zeal and pastor with tenderness. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we remember Our Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston; The Crossing; MANNA Community; The Cathedral Chapter; Episcopal Boston Chinese Ministry and Postulants and Candidates for Holy Orders.

Enlighten our ministers, O God.

For all persons in public authority, that they may be people of trust and serve the common good, denouncing violence and the coercive use of force and promoting the safety and dignity of all.

Enlighten our state, O God.

For ourselves, that we may take to heart the plight of those of us who are poor, those of us who are homeless and destitute, and all who suffer due to human greed.

Enlighten our conscience, O God.

For those who live in fear for their lives, their families, and their homes, that their prayers for relief may be heard and their lives of freedom restored. We remember before you those regions of the world torn apart by war or civil unrest, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Gaza, Nigeria, Venezuela, Sudan, South Sudan and Haiti. We pray for homes and neighborhoods in our own nation traumatized by gun violence. May your peace spread across the world, that all may live in safety.

Enlighten our world, O God.

For those among us who are sick and infirm, especially Dick Anderson, Robert Blanchet, Terese Brown, Maureen Cardenas, Sally Drew, Joanne Gamble, Bill and Judy Gardiner, Joan Kirkby, Andrew Payne, Barbara and Philip Sousa, Dottie Walsh, Matthew, Alex, Bob, Carole, Cathi, Charlie, Dave, John, Lauren, Linnea, Pat and those we now name silently or aloud, (*We name silently or aloud those for whom we pray.*)

that they may be delivered from their pain and distress and restored to wholeness of life.

Enlighten our darkness, O God.

For all who have died, including Margaret Mace and those others we now name, (*We name silently or aloud those who have died.*)

that they may know God's peace and perfect freedom in a kingdom that is forever.

Enlighten our hopes, O God.

For all the blessings of this life, including the ninety-fifth birthday today of parishioner Jay Haun, for the gift of this new day and for the earth which is our common home, (*We name silently or aloud those gifts for which we give thanks.*)

that gratitude will transfigure our lives and our hopes.

Enlighten our hearts, O God, and keep us ever mindful of the needs of others.

The Concluding Collect

O God, whose promise is transformation and whose power is love, make new our weary and warring world and release us from all that corrodes our common life as your children. You sent your beloved Son to live among us. Hear the prayers we offer on this day and help us to listen to him. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen

Please stand as you are able.

The 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

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

The Greeting and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

The Ground (sung in Latin)
Anne Perrault, pianist

Ola Gjeilo

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna!
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.
Give us peace.

Please stand as you are able as our offering is presented.

Hymn 124



To God the Father, heavenly Light, to
Christ, revealed in earth - ly night, to
God the Ho - ly Ghost we raise our e - qual and un -
end - - - ing praise.

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-128 Holy, holy, holy Lord

Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

You may remain standing, sit or kneel for the continuation of the Eucharistic prayer.

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 Christ. 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 God,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **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

This is the Body of Christ

John Bell



Music notation for 'This is the body of Christ' in 3/8 time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: This is the bo-dy of Christ, bro-ken that we may be whole; this cup, as



Music notation for 'This is the body of Christ' in 3/8 time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: pro-mised by God, true to his word, cra-dles our Lord: food for the



Music notation for 'This is the body of Christ' in 3/8 time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: good of the soul.

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

We offer the following prayer each week in solidarity with those viewing from home.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you to enter our hearts and be our companion along the way. Waiting in hope, we know that you are present in every moment of our lives and will never leave us comfortless. For all good things come from you O Lord, and from that goodness, lead us to the love of others. For you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

All are welcome to receive the bread and/or the wine. You may stand or kneel to receive. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available; simply make your needs known to the person serving you. If you wish a blessing instead of the elements, cross your arms over your chest as the priest approaches you.

The Communion Hymn

Hymn 133 O Light of Light

Elmhurst

Hymn LEVAS 64 I love to tell the story

William G. Fisher

Please stand as you are able.

The Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Eternal God, by grace you accept us as living members of your Son Jesus Christ and feed us with spiritual food in this sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace to do your work of reconciliation as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To Him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit may all creation sing hymns of thanks and praise. Amen.

The Sending (*when lay eucharistic visitors are scheduled to make home or hospital visits*)

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread and the one cup.**

The Epiphany Blessing

May Almighty God, who led the Magi by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. **Amen.**

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the only-begotten at his baptism in the River Jordan, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

May God, who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, who creates, redeems and sustains, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn 135 Songs of thankfulness and praise

Salzburg

The Dismissal *Priest* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude *Pavilioned in Splendour* Richard Lloyd

Celebrant and Preacher The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Minister of Music Joan Kirchner

Eucharistic Ministers Kate Paradise, Dianne Fromm

Readers Chris Crighton, Jean Collins, Nancy Boccia

Ushers Brian Skea, John Harter

Altar Guild Gail Binney-Sterne

Altar Flower Guild Nancy Miller

Audio/Video Nancy Boccia

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