

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 8, 2026

THE HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

10:00 am



The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal)

Knowing • Loving • Serving
God + Neighbor

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The Word of God

The Prelude

Meditation

A. Guilmant

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

The Opening Hymn 372 Praise to the living God!

Leoni

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.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the scripture appointed.

The Lessons

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (58:1-12)

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove

the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112:1-9 (*Prayed antiphonally by whole verse, alternating between East and West.*)

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

**2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

**4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

**8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (2:1-12)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these

things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

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

The Sequence Hymn 601 O day of God, draw nigh in beauty

St. Michael

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

Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
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 light of this season, we bring 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 our entire parish family, for our leaders who complete their terms of service today, and for those of us who are beginning new roles.

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 St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain; Northeastern University Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry and St. Cyprian's Church, Roxbury; the Building Bridges Ministries and Retired Clergy.

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, Sally Drew, Bill and Judy Gardiner, Joan Kirkby, 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.

The Concluding Collect

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldst have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

Those Who See Light

Nancy Elze

Those who see light can walk in the dark, those who see love can see God.
Those who look up will discover God's face; those who look down will discover God's path.
Those who perceive God is here with us now will see God's return.
Those who see light can walk in the dark, those who see love can see God.
Those who have witnessed the sunrise and set, those who have studied a flower unfold,
Those who have focused on land, sea and sky have seen Jesus Christ.
Those who see light can walk in the dark, those who see love can see God.
Those who see good in each person they meet,
those who look after their neighbors in need,
Those who believe God's now living in them will see God's return.
Those who see light can walk in the dark, those who see love can see God.

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

Hymn 124



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



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

Bell

This is the bo-dy of Christ— bro-ken that we may be whole;— this cup, as

0
pro-mised by God, true to his word, cra-dles our Lord: food for the

18
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 647 I walk the King's highway

Laramie

Hymn WLP 787 We are marching in the light of God

Siyahamba

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 594 God of grace and God of glory

Cum Rhondda

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

The Postlude

Risoluta

J. Lemmens

Celebrant and Preacher

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Minister of Music

Joan Kirchner

Eucharistic Ministers

Cynthia Murray, Meg Nemitz

Readers

Doug Fromm, Pia MacKenzie, Diana Crighton

Ushers

Mary Hammatt, Michael Isner

Altar Guild

Barbara Wahlquist

Altar Flower Guild

Cris Harter

Audio/Video

Jen Marlin

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