
*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
The Last Sunday after the Epiphany
A Service for Spiritual Communion and
Communion Under Special Circumstances
Recorded Service*



*Welcome
Ringing of the Bell*

Opening Hymn

1982 Hymnal #551 Rise up ye saints of God

1 Rise up, ye saints of God!
Have done with lesser things,
give heart and soul and mind and strength
to serve the King of kings.

2 Rise up, ye saints of God!
His kingdom tarries long:
Lord, bring the day of truth and love
and end the night of wrong.

3 Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
and quickened by the Spirit's power,
rise up, ye saints of God!

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for
ever. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

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.**

*A Reading from the Book of 2 Kings
(2:1-12)*

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

- Our Response** Psalm 50:1-6
- 1 The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; *
he has called the earth from the rising of
the sun to its setting.
 - 2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, *
God reveals himself in glory.
 - 3 Our God will come and will not keep
silence; *
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a raging storm.
 - 4 He calls the heavens and the earth from
above *
to witness the judgment of his people.
 - 5 "Gather before me my loyal followers, *
those who have made a covenant with
me and sealed it with sacrifice."
 - 6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his
cause; *
for God himself is judge.

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Corinthians 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the

knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

The Sequence Musical Offering "Alleluia"

The Holy Gospel According to Mark 9:2-9

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily Mother Barbara

Prayers of the People

The word of God calls us to see that all the places and occasions of the world, even places of sorrow and death, are transfigured by the presence of the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

Let us now call to mind all who are in any need and commend them to God's transforming care, saying: O merciful God, hear our prayer.

For those who are alone, for widows and widowers and orphans, and for the divorced, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For the imprisoned, for those whose only home is the streets, and for those caught by addiction, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For the hungry, for those who cannot feed their children, and for the unemployed, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For refugees, for the victims of warfare, and for those held in poverty by racial discrimination, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For the people of our nation and our community, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For artists and writers, and for all who think on the edge of society, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For preachers and teachers of the light-bearing word of Christ, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For the church and its leaders, formed by the life-giving word of Christ, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For this gathering, feeding on the word of Christ, O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

For those who have asked for our prayers: Ellen, Eugene, Sue, Linda Gatchel, Lloyd Spooner and Andrew Szabat, Jack & Linda Horner, Ashleigh Mann, Chris, Rebecca, Jonathan, Pierre, Sassie, Tony Yancoskie, Janet, Melissa, Katherine, Kathy, Deb, Cameron, Jan McCrory, Emma Jean Bankson, Susan and Robert Glick, Chuck Bloom, Richard, Evan, Roseann, Jack, Kathleen, Amy, Tabitha, the Williams Family, Alice, Samantha, Wanda, Margaret, Brian Rotz, Brian Helman, Rachel Mooney, Stan and Dottie, and for those who care for them and those who are grieving the loss of a loved one: the family of Dick Weller, Dina and Patrick, Pierre and Sassie, Laura, Christina, David, Jonathan, and Joseph, Laura and Pat, Deanna, Kathy, Jeanine, Ellen, Fred, Tom, Susan, Connor and Matthew, Blake and Katherine, and those whom we name, either silently in our hearts or aloud. O merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

With Moses and Elijah and all the people of God, with the church throughout the ages bearing witness to the great light of God shining in dark places, we

commend to you all for whom we pray, O merciful God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

The Offertory

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Eucharistic Prayer C

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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 and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob, Rachel and Leah; 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. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Fraction Anthem

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

The Post-Spiritual Communion Prayer

Let us now offer this prayer for Spiritual Communion, together as One Body:

Dearest Jesus,

We believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament, and that You fill us at all times with your holy, healing, and life-giving Presence. We love You above all else, and our desire is always to welcome You into our souls. Since we cannot at this moment receive You in consecrated bread and wine, help us to know your Presence spiritually, and more deeply in our hearts. We embrace You, knowing that You are already here, and we unite ourselves wholly with You. Never let us feel separated from You or from Your love. As we offer our hearts and spirits in our love of Christ, we pray, Holy Spirit, make us like Jesus: one body, food for the world, one blood, poured out for the life of all. Amen.

Receiving Communion under Special Circumstances

(For those who have consecrated wafers)

The Collect preparing our hearts to receive

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Sacrament

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Post-Communion Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with the spiritual presence of the Risen Christ. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding; keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father Son and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

The Closing Hymn

LEVAS #181 Blessed Assurance

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. [Refrain]

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

Concerto