



Grace Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany:
January 18, 2026
The Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

At the River - arr. Michael Burkhardt

PROCESSION HYMN #535 (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

Musical notation for the Hymn 'Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim' in G major, 4/4 time. The music consists of four staves of music with corresponding lyrics below each staff.

1 Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
4 Then let us a - dore, and give him his right:

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful Name;
and still he is nigh: his pres - ence we have.
Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son.
All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

the Name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol:
The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
and hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious; he rules o - ver all.
as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
fall down on their fa - ces, and wor - ship the Lamb.
and thanks nev - er - ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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 (*Sung by all*)

Organ *Unison Voices*

Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King,
 al - migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

slower 3
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:
 have mer-cy up-on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand
a tempo
 of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. For you a - lone
 are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi - rit,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

©2024 Bill Herndon

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and
vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God."

And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his
servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength--
he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my
servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the
earth."
Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the
nations, the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

- The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 40:1-12 (responsively, by whole verse)

1 I waited patiently upon the Lord;
he stooped to me and heard my cry.

2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of
the mire and clay; he set my feet upon a high
cliff and made my footing sure.

3 He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe,
and put their trust in the Lord.

4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord!
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to
false gods.

5 Great things are they that you have done,
O Lord my God! how great your wonders and
your plans for us!
there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell
them! but they are more than I can count.

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure
(you have given me ears to hear you);

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have
not required, and so I said, "Behold, I come.

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning
me: 'I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my heart.'"

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great
congregation;
behold, I did not restrain my lips;
and that, O Lord, you know.

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in
my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness
and your deliverance;
I have not concealed your love and
faithfulness from the great congregation.

12 You are the Lord;
do not withhold your compassion from me;
let your love and your faithfulness keep me
safe for ever.

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Lector A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #132 (vv. 1-3)

When Christ's appearing was made known

1 When Christ's ap - pear - ing was made known, King He - rod
2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far and fol - lowed
3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood the heaven - ly
5 All glo - ry, Je - sus, be to thee for this thy

1 trem - bled for his throne; but he who of - fers
2 on his guid - ing star; by light their way to
3 Lamb in meek - ness stood, that he, to whom no
5 glad e - piph - a - ny: whom with the Fa - ther

1 heaven - ly birth sought not the king - doms of this earth.
2 Light they trod, and by their gifts con - fessed their God.
3 sin was known, might cleanse his peo - ple from their own.
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

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

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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

SEQUENCE HYMN #132 (v. 5)

When Christ's appearing was made known

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Stephen Becker

358 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.**

392 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM VI)

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world; we pray for Donald our President, Josh our Governor, Jason our Mayor, and John and Tommy our Councilmen;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Samuel and Jennifer our Bishops; and Ed our Priest; and all other bishops and ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. *Silence*

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Cameron** Klass, **Julia** Klass, **Josey** Parker, and **Brianna** Cantrall,

and those with special needs:

Ed Kelaher, **Austen** Sprinkle, **Lou** Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Ella** Asebes, **Louise** Billings, **Tom** Blalock, **Sissy** Bolstad, **Cindy** Bowman, **Judy** Boyd, **Alice** Brandon, **Lynne** Broch, **Jack** Buckheit, **Gayle** Burke, **Seraphina** Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Jim** Clodfelter, **Bob** Cook, **Linda** Cox, **Dylan** Daw, **Susan** Dixon, **Renee** Ewbank, **Cathy** Farley, **Shana** Garland, **Angie** Gowen, **Lilly** Griffin, **Jane** Grimes, **Jimmy** Hall, **George** Hanna, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Jennifer & Michael** Hinton, **Chris** Hodges, **Bob** Holcomb, **Marlene** Jones, **Ray** Kent, **Lisa** Lightfoot, **Lloyd** Lohr, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Debbie** Mason, **Kate** McKenzie, **Charles** McNeair, **Arnold** Miller, **Angela** Mott, **Walker** Peoples, **Gabby** Plott, **Ellen** Rickert, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Betty Jo** Sadler, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Lynn** Santolla, **Suzy** Sheets, **Lisa** Shepherd, **Carol** Sills, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Morgan** Simmons, **Robin** Sink, **Clyde** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Jenny** Hedrick Stilwell, **Sean** Sullivan, **Jackie** Touchton, **Brenda** Tyndall, **Perry** Grimes Van Dyke, **Sandy** Wallace, **Patricia** Wardle, **Flynn** Williams, **Paul** Wylie, **Charlotte** Young, and **Edward**.

“Are there others?”

Hear us, Lord; *People For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence*

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King; *People And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; *People Who put their trust in you.*

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.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. *Silence*

Celebrant and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant 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.**

Please stand if you are able

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let Us Light a Candle in the Darkness - Richard Shepherd

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offering is brought forward as the hymn is played.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS HYMN #112 (v. 4)

In the bleak midwinter

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.*

367 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 him thanks and praise.**

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

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:

SANCTUS (*Sung by All*)

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might.
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

©2024 Bill Herndon

The people may stand or kneel

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 Son. 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 Father,

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

The Celebrant continues

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 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.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

364 **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.

364 THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine. Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally. If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

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.

THE BLESSING

Please stand if you are able

May Christ, the Lamb of God, reveal his glory to you and call you by name; and may the blessing of God Almighty,  the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN #7 *(In the Blue Hymnal)*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!



Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
joy - less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

366 THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

March in G Major - G. F. Handel

*The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God
by Neil Shepherd
in honor of Jön-Eric Thomas.*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

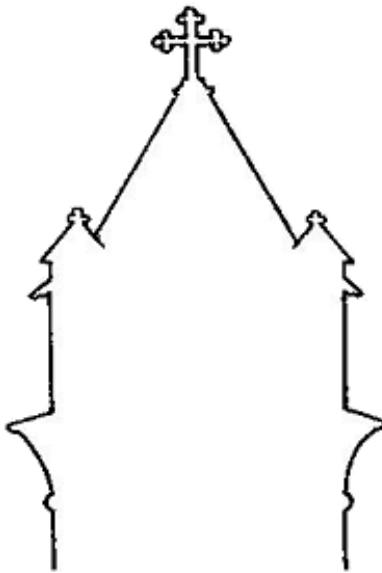
Lector:	Belinda MacKinstry	Intercessor:	Judie Reed
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Tommy Black	Ushers:	Joe Wallace
	Louie Cox		Richard Wolfe
Acolytes:	Hadley Briggs	Greeter:	Penny Taylor
	Tucker Sheets		
	Chandler Allred	Guest Priest:	The Rev. Stephen Becker

WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

We are delighted to have you worship with us today, and we would welcome the opportunity to get acquainted. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex and join us immediately following the service in the Parish Hall (in the adjacent building) for refreshments and conversation. **Today our host is Frances Garner.**

Infants and young children are always welcome to worship with their families in the sanctuary. The restrooms are located in the rear hallway, and diaper-changing stations are provided in both rooms.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
419 S. Main Street
Lexington, North Carolina 27292-3234
phone: 336-249-7211
email: gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org
www.gracelexingtonnc.org

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director
Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director
Summer Blackburn, Youth Leader
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator
John Taylor, Facilities Manager
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music Emerita

THE VESTRY

2026

Karl Bolstad
Bright Carter
Sally Dodd
Henry Duquette Junior Warden

2027

Dan Briggs
Elizabeth Purdy
Mary Matthews Clerk of Vestry
Leslie Sheets Senior Warden

2028

Kristi Allred
Lynn Meeks Treasurer
Neil Shepherd
Chuck Taylor

Vestry Person of the Month for January is Bright Carter.