

be **doers** of the word,  
and not merely **hearers**  
who deceive themselves.

James 1:22

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 2, 2012, 9:30 am

We worship during Pentecost according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two,  
beginning on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Processional Hymn

*Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel*.....574

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**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.**

### Hymn of Praise

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*.....423  
(This is one of Lavonne Hart's favorites.)

Verses 1-2

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good  
things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in  
us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth  
in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for  
ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The Lessons (the people sit)

#### The First Lesson – Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and  
ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may  
live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of  
your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything  
to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but  
keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I  
am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your  
wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear  
all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise  
and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god  
so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to  
him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances  
as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to  
forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip

from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to  
your children and your children's children.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm – Psalm 15

Refrain:

**LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?**

**Who may abide upon your holy hill?**

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*

**who may abide upon your holy hill?**

Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*

**who speaks the truth from his heart.**

There is no guile upon his tongue;

he does no evil to his friend; \*

**He does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.**

In his sight the wicked is rejected. \*

**but he honors those who fear the LORD.**

He has sworn to do no wrong \*

**and does not take back his word.**

He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*

**nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

Whoever does these things \*

**shall never be overthrown.**

Refrain:

**LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?**

**Who may abide upon your holy hill?**

#### The Epistle – James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from  
above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom  
there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of  
his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that  
we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick  
to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not  
produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all  
sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with  
meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your  
souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive  
themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers,  
they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they  
look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget  
what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law,

the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act-they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Sequence – Mark 7:1-8 (the people stand)

Hymn: *I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord*.....304  
Verses 1-3

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

**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

Hymn: *I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord*.....304  
Verses 4-5

Sermon.....The Rev Rob Morpeth

The Nicene Creed (*the people stand*)

**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 (Form I, page 383 of the Book of  
Common Prayer)

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,  
saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and  
for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church  
of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray  
to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in  
authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For every city and community, and for those who live in them,  
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For reasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of  
the earth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the  
wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord,  
have mercy.**

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us  
pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for  
the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have  
mercy.**

For **Lynda Denton, Dot Harris, Alice Williams, Lannon  
Poole, Zoe Bush, Dawn Jones (Jere and Pam VanEtten),  
Amber, Jared and Dezel Oliver (Kathy Haynie), Brandon  
Boland (Cathy Jones), James Wray Bush (Arnold Bush),  
Bobby Borden (Amanda Borden), Chris Eady (Lynne Eady),  
Beverly Johnson, Bobby Gillis, and Columbus Gillis (Ann  
Easley), Lisa Wallace (Laura Williams), Eli and Adrian Olson  
(Lee Borden), the family and friends of Emily McQueen  
Borden and Starr Brooks (Amanda Borden), and the others**

we now name: *(the people here add their own petitions)*, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To thee, O Lord our God.** *(Silence)*

The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.

### Confession of Sin (the people stand or kneel)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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. **And also with you.**

### Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

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## The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn: *Seek Ye First*.....711

### The Presentation

**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.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

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 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.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

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:

*The people sing (found in the Hymnal at S 129)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel*

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:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

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.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

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

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 ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

Communion Hymn

*Glorify Thy Name.....SH-2*

*After Communion, the people stand or kneel and the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**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 (the people stand)

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name.....450*  
(This is one of Kelli Kerr's and Lavonne Hart's favorites)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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We are delighted to welcome The Rev Robert Morpeth today and next Sunday in Father Arnold's absence. Rob serves on the staff of the Alabama Diocese as Deputy for Finance/Administration. Please join us for Sunday School in the parish hall after worship, when Rob will be teaching on reconciling theology with quantum physics.

### ***Serving at Epiphany this week***

Ushers: Greg DuBay and Lynne Eady  
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon and Pam Van Etten  
Lay Reader: Lavonne Hart  
Chalice Bearer: Jere Van Etten

Refreshments: Pam Van Etten  
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper  
Grounds: Tom Bray and Caleb Hart