

". . . it is no longer I who live,  
but it is Christ who lives in me."

Galatians 2:20a

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

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Proper 6

June 16, 2013, 10:30 am

## The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn:

*Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven*.....410

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.**

Praise Hymn: *My Faith Looks Up To Thee*.....691

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast  
faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your  
truth with boldness, and minister your justice with  
compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who  
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

*The First Lesson – 1 Kings 21:1-21a*

The following events took place: Naboth the Jezreelite had a  
vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of King Ahab of  
Samaria. And Ahab said to Naboth, "Give me your vineyard,  
so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is  
near my house; I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it  
seems good to you, I will give you its value in money." But  
Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give  
you my ancestral inheritance." Ahab went home resentful  
and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to  
him; for he had said, "I will not give you my ancestral  
inheritance." He lay down on his bed, turned away his face,  
and would not eat.

His wife Jezebel came to him and said, "Why are you so  
depressed that you will not eat?" He said to her, "Because I  
spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, 'Give me  
your vineyard for money; or else, if you prefer, I will give you  
another vineyard for it'; but he answered, 'I will not give you  
my vineyard.'" His wife Jezebel said to him, "Do you now  
govern Israel? Get up, eat some food, and be cheerful; I will  
give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with  
his seal; she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who  
lived with Naboth in his city. She wrote in the letters,  
"Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the  
assembly; seat two scoundrels opposite him, and have them  
bring a charge against him, saying, 'You have cursed God  
and the king.' Then take him out, and stone him to death."

The men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in  
his city, did as Jezebel had sent word to them. Just as it was  
written in the letters that she had sent to them, they  
proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the  
assembly. The two scoundrels came in and sat opposite him;  
and the scoundrels brought a charge against Naboth, in the  
presence of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the  
king." So they took him outside the city, and stoned him to  
death. Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been  
stoned; he is dead."

As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and  
was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, "Go, take possession of the  
vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give  
you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead." As soon as  
Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab set out to go down  
to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession  
of it.

Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite,  
saying: Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in  
Samaria; he is now in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has  
gone to take possession. You shall say to him, "Thus says  
the LORD: Have you killed, and also taken possession?" You  
shall say to him, "Thus says the LORD: In the place where  
dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up  
your blood."

Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" He  
answered, "I have found you. Because you have sold  
yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, I will bring  
disaster on you."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalms 5:1-8*

Refrain:

**Give ear to my words, O LORD;  
consider my meditation.**

Give ear to my words, O LORD; \*  
**consider my meditation.**

Hearken to my cry for help, my King and my God, \*  
**for I make my prayer to you.**

In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; \*  
**early in the morning I make my appeal and watch  
for you.**

For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, \*  
**and evil cannot dwell with you.**

Braggarts cannot stand in your sight; \*  
**you hate all those who work wickedness.**

You destroy those who speak lies; \*  
**the bloodthirsty and deceitful, O LORD, you abhor.**

But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy I will go  
into your house; \*  
**I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of  
you.**

Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness,  
because of those who lie in wait for me; \*  
**make your way straight before me.**

Refrain:

**Give ear to my words, O LORD;  
consider my meditation.**

*The Epistle - Galatians 2:15-21*

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Sequence – Luke 7:36-8:3 (the people stand)

Hymn: *Freely, Freely*.....SH-40  
Verse 1

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

**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him-- that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "Speak." "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those

who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

Hymn: *Freely, Freely*.....SH-40  
Verse 2

Sermon

The Rev Bill Blackerby

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.**

**The Prayers of the People** (Form IV, page 388 of the Book of Common Prayer)

Let us pray for St. Stephen's, Eutaw; St. Colomba, Owens Cross Roads; our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishops, Zaché and Ogé; Bridge Ministries; and St. Anne's Home, Birmingham. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal these persons: **Lynda** Denton, **Dot** Harris, **Alice** Williams, **Charlotte** and **Lannon** Poole, **Pam** Harper, **Pam** Van Etten, **Dee** Shell, **Amber**, **Jared** and **Dezsel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Brandon** Boland (Cathy Jones), **Lisa** Wallace (Laura Williams), **Jenna** Moates (Kelli Kerr), **John** Myer (Ann Easley, John and Kathy Haynie), **Billie** Wilkinson, **Lindsey** Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Melinda** Henderson (Ann Easley), **Kathy** Brumbleloe (Ann Easley), **Lee** Musso (Cathy Jones), **Oletta** Goodwin, **Sherry** Gritz (Jean Kerr), **Jackie** Henderson (Ann Easley), **Jack** Heil (Ramona Heil-Norris); and **Clifford** Flood (Jean Kerr).

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *(Silence)* Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds 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**

**The Holy Communion**

The Offertory Hymn: *Jesus, Name Above All Names...SH-73*  
*(Repeat)*

**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**

*(Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP p 369)*

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.**

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:

Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord.....S 130*

*The people stand or kneel*

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; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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.**

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.*

Fraction Anthem: *O Lamb of God*.....S 157

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: *Bread of the World*.....301

*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*): *Pass It On*.....SH-55

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

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We are delighted to welcome back Bill Blackerby to serve as our supply priest today. Bill is Episcopal Campus Chaplain to UAB, Samford University, and Birmingham-Southern College.

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Our grateful thanks to James Hart, who removed the mahogany doors from the nave, stripped them, refinished them with six coats of spar varnish, and re-installed them at the church yesterday. What a generous and important gift! Thank you, James!

**Serving at Epiphany this week . . .**

Usher: Kathy Haynie  
Altar Guild: Jean Kerr  
Lay Reader: Ramona Heil-Norris  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Chalice Bearer: Tom Bray  
Refreshments: Jean Kerr  
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper

**and next . . .**

Ushers: To be determined  
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones  
Lay Reader: Kathy Haynie  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Chalice Bearer: Jean Kerr  
Refreshments: Cathy Jones  
Stewards: Maurice and Debra McCord