

LORD, you yourself created my inmost parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Psalm 139:13

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  
16th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 8, 2013, 10:30 am

## The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn:

*Now Thank We All Our God*.....397

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.**

*Gloria in Excelsis*.....S 280

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as  
you always resist the proud who confide in their own  
strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of  
your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 – Jeremiah 18:1-11*

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go  
down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my  
words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he  
was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay  
was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into  
another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with  
you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the  
LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in  
my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare  
concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and  
break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning  
which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my  
mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And at  
another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a  
kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my  
sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind  
about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore,  
say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem:

Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil  
against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of  
you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your  
doings.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17*

Refrain:

**LORD, you have searched me out and known me;  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
**you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
**and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
**but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

You press upon me behind and before \*  
**and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
**it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
**you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

I will thank you because I am marvelously made; \*  
**your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

My body was not hidden from you, \*  
**while I was being made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written in your book; \*  
**they were fashioned day by day,  
when as yet there was none of them.**

How deep I find your thoughts, O God! \*  
**how great is the sum of them!**

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than  
the sand; \*  
**to count them all, my life span would need to be  
like yours.**

Refrain:

**LORD, you have searched me out and known me;  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

*The Epistle - Philemon: 1-21*

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

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

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

The Gospel Sequence – Luke 14:25-33 (the people stand)

Hymn: *I Have Decided To Follow Jesus*.....SH-9  
Verses 1-2

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is

able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

Hymn: *I Have Decided To Follow Jesus*.....SH-9  
Verses 1 and 3

Sermon                      The Rev Dr John Wells Warren

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 Good Shepherd, Decatur; for St. John's-in-the-Prairies, Forkland; for our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishops, Zaché and Ogé; for our seminarians beginning their first year of study; and for the boards, faculty, staff and students of all Episcopal seminaries. (*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.**

We pray for **Lynda** Denton, **Dot** and **Thurman** Harris, **Charlotte** and **Lannon** Poole, **Pam** Harper, **Dee** Shell, **Dezsel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Billie** Wilkinson, **Lindsey** Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Kathy** Brumbleloe (Jere and Pam Van Etten), **Oletta** Goodwin, **Sherry** Gritz (Jean Kerr), **Jack** Heil (Ramona Heil-Norris), **Clifford** Flood (Jean Kerr), **Lois** Shytle (Bill Shell), **James** Barnes (Bill Shell), and **Lee** Leahey (Charlotte Poole).

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

Offertory Hymn: *Come, Gracious Spirit*.....512

### 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 A, BCP p 361)*

*(Musical Response in the Hymnal at S 120)*

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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in 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: *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord*.....S 128

*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.**

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: *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

**Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Thou art the potter, I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after thy will,  
while I am waiting, yielded and still.**

**Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.  
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see  
Christ only, always, living in me!**

*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*):

*To God Be the Glory*

**1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.**

(Refrain:)

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**2. Great things he hath taught us, great things he  
hath done,  
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

(Refrain)

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

**Thanks be to God.**

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

Ushers: Eddie and Pam Harper  
Altar Guild: Laura Williams  
Lay Reader: Ramona Heil-Norris  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Tom Bray  
Refreshments: Laura Williams  
Stewards: Jere and Pam Van Etten

### **and next . . .**

Ushers: To be determined  
Altar Guild: Jean Kerr  
Lay Readers: Lee and Amanda Borden  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Jean Kerr  
Bishop's Chaplain: Jere Van Etten  
Refreshments: Betty Weldon  
Stewards: Maurice and Debra McCord