

"The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light."

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany  
January 26, 10:30 am

Isaiah 9:2a

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

## The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn:

*I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord*.....304

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:

*Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place*.....SH-4

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our  
Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good  
News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may  
perceive the glory of his marvelous works; 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 – Isaiah 9:1-4*

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the  
former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and  
the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make  
glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan,  
Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness --

on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation,

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,

as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,

and the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 27:1, 5-13*

Refrain:

**The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear?**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear? \*

**the LORD is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?**

One thing have I asked of the LORD;  
one thing I seek; \*

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the  
days of my life;**

To behold the fair beauty of the LORD \*  
**and to seek him in his temple.**

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; \*  
**he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling  
and set me high upon a rock.**

Even now he lifts up my head \*  
**above my enemies round about me.**

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation  
with sounds of great gladness; \*

**I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; \*

**have mercy on me and answer me.**

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." \*

**Your face, LORD, will I seek.**

Hide not your face from me, \*

**nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

You have been my helper;

cast me not away; \*

**do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**

Refrain:

**The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear?**

*The Second Lesson - 1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord  
Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there  
be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the  
same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported  
to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you,  
my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you  
says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong  
to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided?  
Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the  
name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except  
Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were  
baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of  
Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized  
anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to  
proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that

the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

The Gospel Sequence – Matthew 4:12-23 (the people stand)

Hymn: *Christ for the World We Sing!*.....537  
Verses 1-2

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

**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles -- the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea-- for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

Hymn: *Christ for the World We Sing!*.....537  
Verses 3-4

Sermon Father Wells

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 III, page 387 of the Book of Common Prayer)

Father, we pray for Saint Paul's, Carlouville; for St. Wilfrid's, Marion; for our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishops, Zaché and Ogé; for Good Samaritan Health Clinic (Cullman); for Community Free Clinic of Morgan County (Decatur); for St. Michael's Community Service Center (Anniston); and for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Katharine, our presiding bishop, for Kee and Santosh, our bishops, for Wells, our priest, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for Barack, our President; for Robert, our governor; for Bobby, our mayor; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to all the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for **Lynda Denton, Dot and Thurman Harris, Charlotte and Lannon Poole, Dezsél Oliver (Kathy Haynie), Billie Wilkinson, Lindsey Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), Kathy Brumbleloe (Jere and Pam Van Etten), Oletta Goodwin, Sherry Gritz (Jean Kerr), Clifford Flood (Jean Kerr), Robert Lumpkin (Barbara Trogdon), Emmanuel Rico (Mike and Elizabeth Harber), Carrie Phillips (Sharon Cleary), Nancy Jones (Nancy Dupree), Jane Clayton (Jean Kerr),** and the others we now name: *(the people may add their own petitions).*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The Celebrant may add a suitable 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: *Take My Life and Let It Be*.....707

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 B, BCP p 367)*

*(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.

*(Father Wells says a Proper Preface)*

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 130

*The people 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;**

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.**

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: *Jesus, Lamb of God*.....S 164

The gifts of God for the people of God.

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

Communion Hymn: *One Bread, One Body*.....SH-94

*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*):

*O Zion, Haste*.....539

Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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

Ushers: Michael and Laura Williams  
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones  
Lay Reader: Sharon Cleary  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Mike Harber  
Refreshments: To be determined  
Stewards: Cathy Jones and Barbara Trogdon

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

Ushers: Lee and Amanda Borden  
Altar Guild: Elizabeth Harber  
Lay Reader: Lavonne Hart  
Piano: Caleb Hart

Eucharistic Minister: Lavonne Hart  
Refreshments: To be determined  
Stewards: Pam and Jere Van Etten