

We have come to believe and know  
that you are the Holy One of God.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
14th Sunday after Pentecost  
Morning Prayer  
August 26, 2018, 10:30 am

John 6:69

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two,  
beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer.

Processional Hymn:

*How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place*.....517

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of  
the Lord."

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence. The people stand or kneel.*

**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 us, forgive us all our sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter (*the people stand*)

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for  
ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

*Venite - Psalm 95*.....S-35

*The Psalm - Psalm 84*

*The people remain standing and alternate reading by whole  
verse, first the left side of the nave, and then the right side,  
etc. All the people recite the opening and closing refrain  
together.*

**O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

L How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! My  
soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

R The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a  
nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your  
altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

L Happy are they who dwell in your house! they will always  
be praising you.

R Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose  
hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

L Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place  
of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of  
water.

R They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will  
reveal himself in Zion.

L Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.

R Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your  
Anointed.

L For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my  
own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my  
God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

R For the Lord God is both sun and shield; he will give grace  
and glory;

L No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with  
integrity.

R O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

**O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be  
for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons (*the people sit for all of the lessons*)

*The First Lesson – 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43*

Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads  
of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the  
Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up  
the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David,  
which is Zion. Then the priests brought the ark of the  
covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of  
the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings  
of the cherubim. And when the priests came out of the  
holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the  
priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud;  
for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the  
presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his  
hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is  
no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath,  
keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants  
who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that  
you kept for your servant my father David as you declared  
to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day  
fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel,

keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive.

"Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so that they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

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

*Canticle 12 – A Song of Creation  
The people remain seated.*

**Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord,  
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.**

**Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew,  
all winds and fire and heat.**

**Winter and summer, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold,  
drops of dew and flakes of snow.**

**Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, O nights and days,  
O shining light and enfolding dark.**

**Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

*The Epistle – Ephesians 6:10-20*

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

*Canticle 19 – The Song of the Redeemed*

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
**surpassing human understanding.**

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
**O King of all the ages.**

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
**for you only are the Holy One.**

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
**because your just and holy works have been  
revealed.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.  
Amen.**

*The Gospel Lesson : John 6:56-69*

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

The Apostles' Creed (the people stand)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Offering

Offertory Hymn (*the people remain seated*)  
*Surely the Presence of the Lord Is In This Place*

*Esther will play this through once, then we will sing it twice.*

Surely the presence of the Lord  
is in this place,  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord  
is in this place.

The Prayers

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.  
**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.**

*Suffrage*

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
**Govern and uphold them, now and always.**  
Day by day we bless you;  
**We praise your Name for ever.**  
Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
**Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**  
Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
**For we put our trust in you.**  
In you, Lord, is our hope;  
**And we shall never hope in vain.**

*Collect of the Day*

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*Collects*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Dear Lord, in accordance with the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose, for the Department of Ministry for Higher Education, and for Hand-in-Paw and all animal assisted ministries. We pray for Diocesan Campus Ministries in Huntsville, Jacksonville, Florence, Montgomery, and Tuskegee; Canterbury, Montevallo; Canterbury, Tuscaloosa; St. Dunstan's, Auburn; and Trinity Commons, Birmingham.

We pray for Sam Jones, Jean Kerr, Barbara Trogdon, Hugh Thompson, Jere Van Etten, Eddie Harper, Greg Dubay, our Beans & Rice clients, and the family of Barbara Dennis, still recovering from a house fire, and the others we now name . . .

We pray for the souls of those who have died, including these we now name . . .

We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Prayer for Mission*

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: *Onward Christian Soldiers*.....562

Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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Are you ready for a Jesus-Centered Life? Bishop Curry has invited us all to take up The Way of Love, based on developing and following a rule of life, walking with others, and the Jesus Movement. The Way of Love is based on seven basic practices: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, and Rest. There's lots more information at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/explore-way-love>.

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Please mark your calendar for Sunday, October 28, Father Wells' last Sunday with us as our permanent priest. After our service of Holy Eucharist, we will adjourn to the Little House for a celebration of his and Leigh's ministry with us.

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

Ushers: Kay and Mike Dickey  
Lay Reader: Kay Dickey  
Officiant: Lavonne Hart

Piano: Esther Hart  
Refreshments: Mark Harris  
Grounds: Mike Rallo and Mark Harris

***and next . . .***

Ushers: John and Kathy Haynie  
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon  
Lay Reader: Laura Williams  
Piano: Esther Hart

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Maurice McCord  
Refreshments: John and Kathy Haynie  
Grounds: Maurice McCord and Lee Borden