

The Lord lifts up the lowly  
but casts the wicked to the ground.

Psalm 147:6

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany  
Holy Eucharist  
February 7, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

We worship today according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two, beginning on  
page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

## The Word of God

*We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins with  
the ringing of the bell. We stand.*

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.**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
**you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
**you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

## The Collect of the Day

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us  
the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to  
us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with  
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for  
ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons (*we sit*)

### The First Lesson – Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the  
earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;  
who brings princes to naught,  
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God?"

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

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

Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

He heals the brokenhearted  
and binds up their wounds.

**He counts the number of the stars  
and calls them all by their names.**

Great is our LORD and mighty in power;  
there is no limit to his wisdom.

**The Lord lifts up the lowly,  
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;  
make music to our God upon the harp.  
**He covers the heavens with clouds  
and prepares rain for the earth;**

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains  
and green plants to serve mankind.

**He provides food for flocks and herds  
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

He is not impressed by the might of a horse;  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;  
**But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him,  
in those who await his gracious favor. Hallelujah!**

The Epistle Lesson – 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn – Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid  
from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of  
Days, almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou  
livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish, like leaves  
on the tree, then wither and perish; but not changeth thee.

The Gospel – Mark 1:29-39 (*we stand*)

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

**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered  
the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now  
Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told  
him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and  
lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve  
them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were  
sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was  
gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick  
with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he  
would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew  
him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and  
went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon  
and his companions hunted for him. When they found him,  
they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He  
answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I  
may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came  
out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the  
message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

*We sit.*

Sermon

The Rev. Lee Lowery

The Nicene Creed (*we 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 II, page 385, BCP)

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael, our presiding bishop, Glenda, our Bishop, Lee, our priest, this gathering; and all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for **Ellen Solomon, Caleb Hart, Bobby Perkins, Jere Van Etten, Joe Herring, Andrus Love, Lacey Brewer, Rice Jacobs**, and the others we now name.

*Silence. We raise here requests for specific prayers and thanksgivings.*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Hymn: *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise, manifested by the star to the sages from afar; branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem; anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole palsied limbs and fainting soul; manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might; manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill; anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

## The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

*(Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p 367) (we stand)*

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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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:

**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.**

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. We keep a period of silence*

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.

*Being careful to maintain social distance and keeping our faces covered, we approach the table. Each of us takes a plate and returns to his or her seat. We consume the wafer when we are back in our seats.*

*After Communion, we stand or kneel.*

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

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Peace

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

*Following the service, please place your plate in the receptacle provided.*

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<b>Serving at this week:</b>	<b>And next:</b>
Altar Guild: Suzy Wilson	Altar Guild: Betty Weldon
Lay Reader: Suzy Wilson	Lay Reader: Kathy Haynie