

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

2 Cor. 5:17

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Third Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist  
June 13, 2021, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the appointed order for the Holy Eucharist, beginning on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer and from *Enriching Our Worship*. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

## Liturgy of the Word

*Our worship begins with the ringing of the bell and the Acclamation on BCP 355. 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.**

### Hymn – Gloria – S 280

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 (*we sit*)

#### The First Lesson – 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeath of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders

of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 20 - BCP 608

**May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble,  
the Name of the God of Jacob defend you;**

**Send you help from his holy place  
and strengthen you out of Zion;**

**Remember all your offerings  
and accept your burnt sacrifice;**

**Grant you your heart's desire  
and prosper all your plans.**

**We will shout for joy at your victory  
and triumph in the Name of our God;  
may the LORD grant all your requests.**

**Now I know that the LORD gives victory to his  
anointed;  
he will answer him out of his holy heaven,  
with the victorious strength of his right hand.**

**Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we will call upon the Name of the LORD our  
God.**

**They collapse and fall down,  
but we will arise and stand upright.**

**O LORD, give victory to the king  
and answer us when we call.**

The Epistle – 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord--for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

**Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past – 680 (1-5)**

The Gospel – Mark 4:26-34 (*we stand*)

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

**Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it

grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

*We sit.*

Sermon

The Rev. Lee Lowery

The Nicene Creed (*we stand*) – BCP 358

**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, BCP 387) (*we  
stand or kneel.*)

Father, we pray 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 all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

We pray 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, especially **Colin Strevy, Tom Haynie, and Roger Smith.**

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

Give to **Debra Davis** and 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 our own needs and those of others.

*We may add our own petitions silently or aloud.*

Grant, O God, that we may follow the example of your faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the wellbeing of your Church, gave generously of his life and substance for the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence.*

**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.**

## The Offertory

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

**Hymn: *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* 524 (1,3,5)**

## The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer 1 - *Enriching Our Worship* (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 truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

## *Sanctus* - S 129

*We stand or kneel*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

*After Communion, the people stand or kneel. BCP 365*

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 bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

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**Serving at Epiphany this week:**

Altar Guild: Cathy Jones  
Lay Reader: Kathy Haynie

**And next:**

Altar Guild: Elizabeth Harber  
Lay Reader: Suzy Wilson