

ST. MATTHEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Eucharist

10am

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 18, 2026

*It is the tradition of the Episcopal Church to maintain silence in the worship area so that people may pray. Please help us preserve an atmosphere of quiet reverence before worship. Remember to turn off or silence all phones. Thank you.*

**The Word of God**

**Prelude:** Improvisation on "Simple Gifts"

Robert Lee

People stand as able.

**Opening Hymn:** *We are marching in the light of God*

**Insert**  
South African Hymn

**Opening Acclamation**

**Presider**      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**People**      **And blessed be God's reign, 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.**

**Song of Praise**

S-280  
Robert Powell

**Collect of the Day**

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

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading**

Isaiah 49:1-7

**The People are seated**

Listen to me, O coastlands,  
pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born,  
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

But I said, "I have labored in vain,  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,  
and my reward with my God."

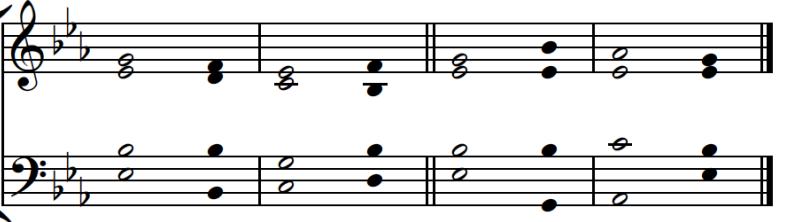
And now the LORD says,  
    who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
    and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
    and my God has become my strength--  
he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
    to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
    and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
    that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the LORD,  
    the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
    the slave of rulers,  
"Kings shall see and stand up,  
    princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
    the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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

**Psalm**

40:1-12



1 I waited patiently for you, O God; \*  
    he stooped to me and heard my cry.  
2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; \*  
    he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.  
3 He put a new song in my mouth,  
    a song of praise to our God; \*  
    many shall see, and stand in awe,  
    and put their trust in you.  
4 Happy are they who trust in you; \*  
    they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.  
5 Great things are they that you have done, O God!  
    how great your wonders and your plans for us! \*  
    there is none who can be compared with you.  
6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! \*  
    but they are more than I can count.  
7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure \*  
    (you have given me ears to hear you);  
8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, \*  
    and so I said, "Behold, I come.  
9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: \*  
    'I love to do your will, O my God;  
    your law is deep in my heart.'"  
10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; \*  
    behold, I did not restrain my lips;  
    and that, O Lord, you know.  
11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
    I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; \*  
    I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

12 You are the Holy One;  
    do not withhold your compassion from me; \*  
    let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

*The Saint Helena Psalter Translation*

**Second Reading**

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

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

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Gospel Hymn:** *Lift every voice and sing*

**Hymnal 599**  
*Lift Every Voice*

**John 1:29-42**

**The People stand as able.**

**Holy Gospel**

**Remain standing**

**Deacon**      The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.  
**People**      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

**Deacon**      The Gospel of our Savior.  
**People**      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Nicene Creed**

**The People stand as able**

**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,**

**The Rev. Jan Scholtz**

**1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

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:  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

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  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
who 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.

#### Prayers of the People

After each petition, the People respond **Hear our prayer.**

#### Confession of Sin

The Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Stand or kneel. Silence may be kept.

Presider and People

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 our Savior 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.

#### Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

#### Peace

All stand as able.

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.  
People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

#### A Word of Welcome

The People are seated

#### Birthday Collect

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### Holy Communion

During the offertory, please consider the gifts God has given you, and give generously. Your gift will help us continue vital ministries, and we really need money in this unusual moment in history. Our online giving works well, as does our text to give option. Please use this link for online giving.  
<https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/5QFR9K/>

#### Offertory Anthem: *O Rest in the Lord*

Felix Mendelssohn

#### Presentation Verse

Hymnal 124, stanza 5

To God the Father, heavenly Light, to Christ revealed in earthly night, to God the Holy Ghost we raise our equal and unceasing praise.

#### Great Thanksgiving

#### Eucharistic Prayer B

*The People remain standing.*

Presider The Lord be with you.  
People And also with you.  
Presider Lift up your hearts.  
People We lift them to the Lord.  
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*The Presider continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

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

S-129

Robert Powell

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*The People stand or kneel as the prayer continues*

*The Presider continues*

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 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 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,

*Presider and People*

We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;

*The Presider then continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Matthew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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.

#### Breaking of the Bread

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

#### Fraction Anthem: *Christ our Passover*

Jeffrey Smith



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who seek God and are drawn to God through Christ are welcome to receive communion. If for any reason you do not desire to receive communion, you may come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. If you need gluten-free bread, please ask the priest giving out bread. You are welcome to receive both bread and wine, or just bread. Christ is fully present in both or either the bread and wine.

#### Music during Communion: *Come with us, O blessed Jesus*

Hymnal 336

Werde munter

*Eucharistic Visitors may be commissioned.*

#### Postcommunion Prayer

Let us pray.

*People and Presider*

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.

#### Blessing

#### Closing Hymn: *Once to every man and nation*

Insert

Ton-y-Boté

#### Dismissal

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

#### Postlude: *Improvisation on Jerusalem*

C.H. Parry