



The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia
The Holy Eucharist

February 20, 2022 at 9:30 A.M.

Today we are using a liturgy from the Anglican Church of Kenya. Epiphany is about the gospel going out to the whole world and returning to us in perhaps a new way. We hope using this slightly different language for a time will be helpful spiritually. Notice what you feel as you pray these words, and give us feedback.

THE ENTRANCE

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 390 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
Sung by all, standing.

Lobe den Herren

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it.
People **Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad.**
Presider The Spirit is here:
People **The promise of God.**

The Presider says the Collect for Purity

Let us pray. Almighty God, you bring to light things hidden in darkness, and know the shadow of our hearts: cleanse and renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in the light and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.
Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

As we speak the Gloria, the congregation is invited to clap three times, once on each the main syllables of each statement. For example, clap on the syllables “Glo . . . to . . . Fath . . .” and “glor . . . fied . . . home . . .” etc.

Presider Glory to the Father,
People **Glory to the Son,**
Presider Glory to the Spirit,
People **For ever Three in One.**
Presider Be glorified at home.
People **Be glorified in church.**
Presider Be glorified in this state.
People **Be glorified in this continent.**
Presider Be glorified on earth.
People **Be glorified in heaven.**
Presider Glory to the Father,
People **Glory to the Son,**
Presider Glory to the Spirit,
People **For ever Three in One.**
Presider Hallelujah!
People **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray the prayers appointed for today.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE LESSON [*The people are seated.*]

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

The Old Testament reading is taken from Genesis, chapter forty-five, beginning to read at verse three.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Hallelujah. Praise be to God.

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 657 "Love divine, all loves excelling"

Hyfrydol

Sung by all, standing. During the singing of the Sequence Hymn, children through second grade may follow the Dove Cross to Children's Chapel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

We hear the good news of our salvation, as it is written in the Gospel according to Luke, chapter six, beginning to read at verse twenty-seven.

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Hallelujah. Praise be to Christ our Savior.

THE SERMON The Rev. Jon C. Strand

A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.

THE NICENE CREED

We stand together with Christians throughout the centuries, and throughout the world today, to affirm our faith in the words of 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 *[All remain standing.]*

Intercessor Let us pray. May the leaders and people of our churches have wisdom and speak with one voice.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May the leaders of our country serve with fairness.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May justice be our shield and defender.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May the country have peace and the people be blessed.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May the flocks and the herds prosper and the fish abound in our lakes.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May the fields be fertile and the harvest plentiful.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May we and our enemies turn towards peace.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May the love of the Father touch the lonely, the bereaved, and the suffering.

People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor May the path of the world be swept of all dangers.

People **Hallelujah. The Lord of mercy is with us.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The Presider says

Hear the words of challenge and comfort our Savior Christ says to all who follow him.

If any would come after me, let them deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. For whoever would save their life will lose it; and whoever loses their life for my sake will save it.

Come unto me, all who are tired of carrying your heavy loads, and I will give you rest.

Let us reverently confess our sins to Almighty God. *[All kneel in silence.]*

Almighty God, creator of all, you marvelously made us in your image; but we have corrupted ourselves and damaged your likeness by rejecting your love and hurting our neighbors. We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are sincerely sorry and heartily repent of our sins. Cleanse us and forgive us by the sacrifice of your Son; remake us and lead us by your Spirit, the Comforter. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God, whose steadfast love is as great as the heavens are high above the earth, remove your sins from you, as far as the east is from the west, strengthen your life in his kingdom and keep you upright to the last day; through Jesus Christ, our merciful high priest. **Amen.**

Thank you, Father, for forgiveness. We come to your table as your children, not presuming but assured, not trusting ourselves alone but your Word; we hunger and thirst for righteousness, and ask for our hearts to be satisfied with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ the righteous. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "Oculi omnium"

(Sung in Latin) The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.
Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing. Glory be to thee, O Lord. Amen.

Charles Wood

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING [*The people stand.*]

Presider Is the Father with us?

People **God is with us.**

Presider Is Christ among us?

People **Christ is with us.**

Presider Is the Spirit here?

People **The Spirit is among us.**

Presider This is our God.

People **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Presider We are God's people.

People **We are redeemed.**

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

It is right and our delight to give you thanks and praise, great Father, living God, supreme over the world, Creator, Provider, Savior and Giver. From a wandering nomad you created your family; for a burdened people you raised up a leader; for a confused nation you chose a king; for a rebellious crowd you sent your prophets. In these last days you have sent us your Son, your perfect image, bringing your kingdom, revealing your will, dying, rising, reigning, and remaking your people for yourself. Through him you have poured out your Holy Spirit, filling us with light and life. [*The Presider continues.*]

Therefore with angels, archangels, faithful ancestors, and all in heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

SANCTUS, HYMN 858 [*green hymnal*]

Land of Rest

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues

Almighty God, owner of all things, We thank you for giving up your only Son to die on the cross for us who owe you everything. Pour your refreshing Spirit on us as we remember him in the way he commanded, through these gifts of your creation.

On the same night that he was betrayed he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Amen. His body was broken for us.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying, "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. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We are brothers and sisters through his blood.

We have died together,

we will rise together,

we will live together.

Therefore, heavenly Father, hear us as we celebrate this covenant with joy, and await the coming of our brother, Jesus Christ. He died in our place, making a full atonement for the sins of the whole world, the perfect sacrifice, once and for all. You accepted his offering by raising him from death, and granting him great honor at your right hand on high.

Amen. Jesus is Lord.

This is the feast of victory.

The lamb who was slain has begun to reign. Hallelujah!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider As Jesus taught us, so we pray:

People **Our Father in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the test, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Presider Christ is alive forever.

People **We are because he is.**

Presider We are one body.

People **We share one bread.**

Presider Draw near with faith.

People **Christ is the host and we are Christ's guests.**

The Presider says

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, keep your body and soul in eternal life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Assistant says

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, keep your body and soul in eternal life. Drink this, in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

INVITATION [*The People are seated.*]

As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Comforter. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.

AT THE DISTRIBUTION, HYMN 593 "Lord, make us servants of your peace"

Dickinson College

Sung by all.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [*Said by all.*]

Almighty God, eternal Father, we have sat at your feet, learned from your word, and eaten from your table. We give you thanks and praise for accepting us into your family. Send us out with your blessing, to live and to witness for you in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The people accompany the first three responses with a sweep of the arm towards the cross behind the Holy Table, and their final response with a sweep towards heaven.

Presider All our problems

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Presider All our difficulties

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Presider All the devil's works

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Presider All our hopes

People **We set on the risen Christ.**

The Presider says

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path: and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 347 "Go forth for God; go to the world in peace"

Litton

Sung by all, standing.

DISMISSAL

Presider Go out into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God!**