



The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

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

February 16, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

The liturgy follows the Holy Communion Liturgy from the Church of the West Indies (1995).

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Toccata (Ionian)

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

THE PREPARATION

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 423 “Immortal, invisible, God only wise”

St. Denio

Sung by all, standing.

The Presider greets the congregation with the following:

For the God who said, “Out of darkness light shall shine,” has caused his light to shine in our hearts, the light which is knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and for ever. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The following is said by the Presider and people:

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your Name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMN 899 [*green hymnal*]

Carl Haywood

Sung by all.

Glo - ry,
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo - ry,
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name...
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth...
Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for — your glo-ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God. Glo - ry, Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,
— Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name.

You take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are

seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our — prayer. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are — the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of — the Fa - ther. Glo - ry,

Descant
Lord, — Lord — we praise — you, —
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,

Lord, Lord, hal - le - lu - jah.
 Glo - ry, Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your
 Ho - ly name. A - - - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD: "Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1 *Beatus vir qui non abiit*

David Boulware-Kelley

The cantor sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the cantor sings the verses, and all join on the refrain, as indicated.

Hap - py are they whose de - light is in the law of the LORD.

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
 nor lingered in the way of sinners,
 nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
 and they meditate on his law day and night. *[Ref.]*
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
 bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
 everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
 they are like chaff which the wind blows away. *[Ref.]*
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
 nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
 but the way of the wicked is doomed. *[Ref.]*

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 635 “If thou but trust in God to guide thee”

Wer nur den lieben Gott

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 6:17-26

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles, and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

THE SERMON The Rev. Jackie Thomson

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

THE NICENE CREED [Said by all.]

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen or 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, one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died and was buried. On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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. 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.]

The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.

Intercessor ...Father in Heaven,

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Intercessor concludes

That with all who belong to the communion of saints, both living and departed, we may ever rejoice in the blessed assurance of that hope, which has been won for us in Christ. Father in Heaven,

People **Receive these prayers in the name of your dear Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE ACT OF PENITENCE

The Presider says

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *[All kneel in silence.]*

Let us therefore confess our sins.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

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: "Since by man came death"

George Frideric Handel

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

When the offerings are presented at the altar the following shall be said:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in coming to dwell among us as man, He revealed the radiance of His glory, and brought us out of darkness into His own marvelous light.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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 and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Presider Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

People **Jesus is Lord. He has reconciled us to Himself: Christ makes all things new.**

The Presider continues the prayer.

Presider With Him and in Him and through Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father Almighty, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, in songs of everlasting praise.

People **Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider As our Savior has taught us, so we pray:

People **Our Father in heaven, hallowed 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.**

THE AGNUS DEI, HYMNAL, S 164

Franz Schubert

Sung by all.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATION [The People are seated.]

As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Communion. 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 and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—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.

COMMUNION MUSIC [Sung by all.]

HYMN 773 [green hymnal] "Heal me, hands of Jesus"

HYMN 325 "Let us break bread together on our knees"

*Sharpe
Let Us Break Bread*

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Presider In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *[Said by all.]*

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we who share His Body live His risen life; we who drink His cup bring life to others; we upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world. Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with good news of His kingdom; and the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and those you love and pray for, now and always. **Amen.**

AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 544 "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun"
Sung by all, standing.

Duke Street

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *Wer nur den lieben Gott* (Hymn 635)

Johann Gottfried Walther