



# The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

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

February 23, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

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

**OPENING VOLUNTARY:** Lento from Sonata No. 2, Op. 36

Sergei Rachmaninoff

*Owen Cobb, piano*

## THE PREPARATION

**AT THE PROCESSION,** HYMN 390 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

*Lobe den Herren*

*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 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 MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

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

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 37:1-12, 41-42** *Noli emulari*

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.*

Com - mit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him.

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, \*  
and he will bring it to pass.



Com - mit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him.

- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light \*  
and your just dealing as the noonday. [Ref.]
- 7 Be still before the LORD \*  
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, \*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land. [Ref.]
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; \*  
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because they seek refuge in him. [Ref.]

#### THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks 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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

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.”

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Jon Strand

*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: "Oculi omnium"

Charles Wood

*(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.

## 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:

## 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 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

*Sung by all.*

Franz Schubert

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 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 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 576 "God is love, and where true love is"

HYMN 593 "Lord, make us servants of your peace"

*Mandatum  
Dickinson College*

**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 347 "Go forth for God; go to the world in peace"**

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Litton*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Allegro molto** *from Sonata No. 2, Op. 36*

*Owen Cobb, piano*

Sergei Rachmaninoff