



# The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

## Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church & Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. We welcome and include all people without exception and we extend a special greeting to any visitors. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in *italics*. Visitor guides are found in racks at the entrance doors. When you wish to be known here, please *fill out a welcome card* (found in each pew or online); you may drop the card into the offering plate as it is passed. Children are very welcome in this service, and child care is also available for infants and children through age four in our nursery on the lower level near the *main parking lot entrance*; greeters are happy to guide you. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We hope to see you again soon!

**Voluntary**      Prelude in E Flat [9:00]  
                    Prelude on *Slane* [11:15]

N. J. Lemmens  
Gerre Hancock

## The Word of God

## Hymn 686 Come, thou fount of every blessing

Nettleton

*Sung by all, standing as you are able. All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the blue book in your pew rack.*

## Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

*Celebrant*      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Collect for Purity

Said by all.

Prayer Book, page 355

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

*Sung by all.*

*Mit Freuden zart*

Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre - a - tion, the  
 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly Name give God all praise and glo - ry; let

God of power, the God of love, the God of our sal - va - tion; with  
 all who know his power pro-claim a - loud the won - drous sto - ry! Cast

heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and ev - ery faith - less  
 each false i - dol from its throne, the Lord is God, and

mur - mur stills: to God all praise and glo - ry.  
 he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

## The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 215

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *A period of silence is kept.*

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lesson** Micah 6:1-8 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Prophet Micah.

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalm 15** *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 599

1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \***  
**but he honors those who fear the LORD.**  
5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.  
**6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \***  
**nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**  
7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Hymn 482**     Lord of all hopefulness     *Sung by all, standing.*     **Slane**

**The Gospel**     Matthew 5:1-12     *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

**Deacon**     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People**     **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

**Deacon**     The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**     **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**     Dr. Westina Matthews

**The Nicene Creed**     *Said by all, standing.*

Prayer Book, page 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 IV**

Prayer Book, page 388

**Celebrant**     Let us pray for the church and the world.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*In the course of the pause after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

*Leader* Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We remember especially those who suffer in all places of conflict at home and abroad, including those people and places we name now, silently or aloud: \_\_\_\_\_. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* We commend to your mercy all who have died, [especially \_\_\_\_\_] that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Celebrant* Lord, in your mercy

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant* Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*All* **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.**

Celebrant

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**

Prayer Book, page 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

## The Holy Communion



*All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts as we participate in God's work in the world. You may offer your gift in an offering plate as they come by or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSRA to 73256.*

**At the Offertory**

**Hymn 601** O day of God, draw nigh [9:00]

*Sung by all, seated.*

*St. Michael*

**Anthem** The Beatitudes [11:15]

*Sung by the choir.*

Text: Matthew 5:1-10, 12; music: Nancy Wertsch

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Rejoice and be glad, for great is your reward in heaven."

**At the Presentation**

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Puer nobis*

*The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.*

A musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves of music in G major, common time. The lyrics are: "To God, Cre- a - tor, heav'n - ly Light, to Christ, re- vealed in earth- ly night, to God the Spi - rit we now raise our song of thank - ful - ness and praise." The music is simple and melodic, with a clear bass line and a soprano line above it.

**The Great Thanksgiving** Eucharistic Prayer B, *Alternate Form*

*The people remain standing.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

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***Sung by all.*

The Hymnal S-114, Healey Willan

*You may stand or kneel.***Celebrant**

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,

**Celebrant and People****We remember Christ's death,****We proclaim Christ's resurrection,****We await Christ's coming in glory;****Celebrant**

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 Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; 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,**

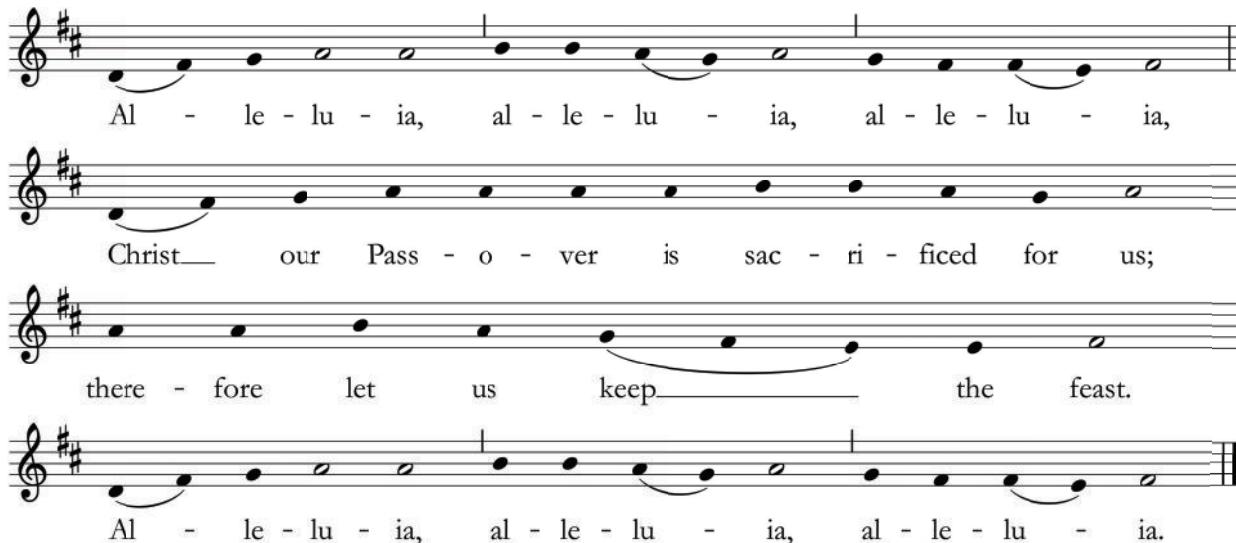
**as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

The Hymnal S-154, David Hurd



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Celebrant*

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

### At the Communion of the People

*All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps [9:00] or the high altar [11:15] and in both side chapels. The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, cross one hand over the other, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.*

### Music at Communion

**Anthem**      *Blessed are the ones [11:15]*      **Sung by the choir**      Text: from Psalm 1; music: Jane Marshall

Blessed are the ones who walk not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by the streams of water.

**Hymn 593**    *Lord, make us servants of your peace*      **Sung by all, seated.**

*Dickinson College*

### Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitors

*When a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is scheduled to visit a parishioner, the following is said.*

**Deacon**      *N., we send you out to share Communion with N.*

**People**      **Carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

**Deacon**      *We who are many are one body because we share one bread and one cup. Amen.*

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*  
**All** **God of abundance,**  
**you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;**  
**you have united us with Christ and one another;**  
**and you have made us one with all your people**  
**in heaven and on earth.**  
**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,**  
**that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world**  
**and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### The Blessing

John O'Donohue, from *To Bless the Space Between Us*

**Celebrant** May you recognize in your life the presence, power, and light of your soul.  
May you realize that you are never alone, that you have a special destiny here, that behind the façade of your life there is something beautiful and eternal happening.  
And may you learn to see yourself with the same delight, pride, and expectation with which God sees you in every moment.  
And God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

**Hymn 477** All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine *Sung by all, standing.*

*Engelberg*

### Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

**Deacon** Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Voluntary

Chaconne [9:00]

Louis Couperin

*Fugue (Sortie) sur l'antienne Lumen ad revelationem gentium [11:15]*

Alexandre Guilmant



### Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of E. Randolph "Randy" Wootton, Sr. by Lois Ayers. The vigil candle in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit is given in memory of Jamie Knight.

### Participants

**9:00//CELEBRANT:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **DEACON:** The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins; **SUBDEACON:** Kathy Brock; **LAY READER:** Archer Williams; **PREACHER:** Dr. Westina Matthews; **INTERCESSOR:** James Driscoll; **LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER:** Allison Koschak; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Mary Ball, Beth Crews, Bob Dibble, Kim Schmidt; **ACOLYTES:** Wyatt Hobbs, Rosie Ferrell, Wilson Lucas, Abigail Moore, Avery Peay, Emma Peay, Linley Rose; **LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR:** Clarice Dibble; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Hymn Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Donald Anderson, *organ*; **VERGER:** Andy Luke

**11:15//CELEBRANT:** The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins; **DEACON:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **SUBDEACON:** Iffet Araniti-Davis; **LAY READER:** Sherlyn Dibble; **PREACHER:** Dr. Westina Matthews; **ASSISTING PRIESTS:** The Rev. Cate Anthony, the Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Scott Finn, Bill Gray, Mim Oman, Kim Spensieri; **ACOLYTES:** Nina Matos, Abigail Moore, Henry Mulholland, Isabel Schaaf, Julia Hunter Williams; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Diana Chou, *organ*; **VERGER:** Dave Davis

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