



The Reverend Bob Farrow, Priest in Charge  
Kevin Anderson, Organist

**The First Sunday After the Epiphany  
The Baptism of Our Lord**

January 11, 2026  
**Holy Eucharist Rite II**

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*Please be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent,  
for this is a house of prayer for all people.*

**PRELUDE**

*All stand and sing.*

PROCESSIONAL | *Aurelia* The Church's one foundation

Hymnal 525

*Please be seated.*

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People: **Glory to God, for ever and ever.**

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.**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - - cy on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.*

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## THE WORD OF GOD

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THE OLD TESTAMENT | Isaiah 42:1-9

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM | *Psalm 29 Afferte Domino*

*The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse.*

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.**

9 And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

**10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**

11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT | Acts 10:34-43

Lector: A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand and sing.*

SEQUENCE HYMN | Baptized in water

See next page

1. Bap- tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit, Cleansed by the  
 2. Bap- tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit, Dead in the  
 3. Bap- tized in wa-ter, sealed by the Spi-rit, Marked with the

1. blood of Christ our King: Heirs of sal - va - tion, —  
 2. tomb with Christ our King: One with his ris - ing, —  
 3. sign of Christ our King: Born of one Fa - ther, —

1. trust - ing his prom-ise, — Faith ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 2. freed and for- giv - en, — Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
 3. we are his child-ren, — Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Words: Michael Saward (b. 1932)

Music: Eugene Hancock (b. 1929)

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THE GOSPEL | Matthew 3:13-17

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated for the sermon.*

THE SERMON

Rev. Bob Farrow

*All stand as able.*

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

*The Book of Common Prayer* 232

*All stand as able.*

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third**

**day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
for the Baptism of Our Lord

from *Planning for Rites and Rituals: A Resources for Episcopal Worship (Year A)*

*Please kneel or stand as you are able. The Intercessor and People pray responsively.*

Through Christ we are anointed with the Holy Spirit in baptism. May the same Spirit inspire us as we offer our prayers, responding, "Here us, God of Glory."

For the light of hope which illuminates the depths of reality and releases our hearts to offer the treasures of our souls; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

For those who are ill or injured, and for those who are depressed and anxious, that they may know the comfort of your healing love and the joy of each new day; and especially for Emily, Gene, Hudson, Brody, Hudson, Peggy, and Kenny and his family; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

That we grow in the Holy Spirit, fulfill our ministry, and follow Christ from this day on; let us pray.

**Hear us, God of Glory.**

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Offering you these prayers and praises we acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Uphold us this day and every day and bless our endeavors as we strive to bring about your kingdom vision for this world. We ask all this in the name of your Son, who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Together*

**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.**

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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS

OFFERTORY HYMN | When we all get to Heaven

Booklet 91

THE DOXOLOGY | *Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

*Please stand for the presentation of the offering.*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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## HOLY COMMUNION

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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 him thanks and praise.**

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

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 | Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S 125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

*The people stand or kneel as able.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your

mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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 he 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Together*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, 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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

### FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S164



Musical notation for the Fraction Anthem, first line. The music is in G major, common time. The vocal line is: Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



Musical notation for the Fraction Anthem, second line. The music is in G major, common time. The vocal line is: give us your peace, give us your peace.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

*Celebrant:*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

# THE SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*After taking communion, you are welcome to remain kneeling at the front of the church for special prayer and blessing.*

COMMUNION HYMN | Wade in the Water | Performed by Kevin Anderson

## BLESSING

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

## *Celebrant and People*

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.

## RECESSSIONAL | Shall we gather at the river

## Booklet 68

## **DISMISSAL**

**Officiant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Response:** **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the Gathering Room,  
to the left as you exit the nave.**

*St. Nicholas' mission is to actively share Christ's love for all people.*

*Our vision is to strive to be a welcoming community who worships a caring and  
merciful God, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.*

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## IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Your prayers are asked for Emily Minton, Gene Wells, Brody Johnson, Hudson Garrett, Peggy Gjertsen, and Kenny Hall and his family. Continued prayers and loving thoughts for our beloved homebound congregants: Mike Sawyer and Liz Dixon.

We pray for wisdom for those in authority, for guidance for those who feel called to action, and for safety and peace for those who feel fear in these times. We continue to pray for all those in need within our community and those in the world who have suffered due to war and natural disaster.

### VESTRY

Rose Brent, *Senior Warden*  
Martha Dimon, *Junior Warden*  
Carolyn Cox, Sheri Cody,  
Kathy McMurtry  
Alex Garrett, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Jim Gilliam, *Treasurer*

### MINISTERS THIS WEEK

Lector: Lynn Norris  
Ushers: Charles & Lynn Norris  
Virtual Ministers: William Morgan & Steve Morse  
Eucharistic Minister: Drucye Cox  
Crucifer: Riley-Anne Johnson  
Flowers: Alex Garrett & Jim Gilliam

## UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

**TODAY:** Annual Parish Meeting with “2nd Sunday Brunch” after the service

**JAN 19:** MLK Day (office closed)

**JAN 21:** Cookies, Crafts, and Conversation Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.

## **Stewardship Update: How'd We Come Out?**



Not bad! For 2026, we set a pledge goal of \$140,000, representing a 7% increase over our 2025 pledge commitments. To date, we have received 27 pledges with an average pledge of \$5,104 and we expect a couple

more yet to come in. And we had two new pledges this year. Many thanks to Connie Blackmon for her hard work as Stewardship Chair and thanks to everyone for a successful pledge drive for the coming year.

The 2026 Fiscal Year has begun – if you have an outstanding balance from your 2025 pledge, contributions received will be applied to that balance first.