



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

Christ the King

November 23, 2025

Holy Eucharist Rite II

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL | *Ein feste Burg* A mighty fortress is our God Hymnal 688

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

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.**

GLORIA | Hymnal S 280

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OLD TESTAMENT | Jeremiah 23:1-6

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE | Cantic 16 The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus*
The Cantic is read responsively as indicated.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way 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 EPISTLE | Colossians 1:11-20

Lector: A reading from the second letter to the Colossians.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

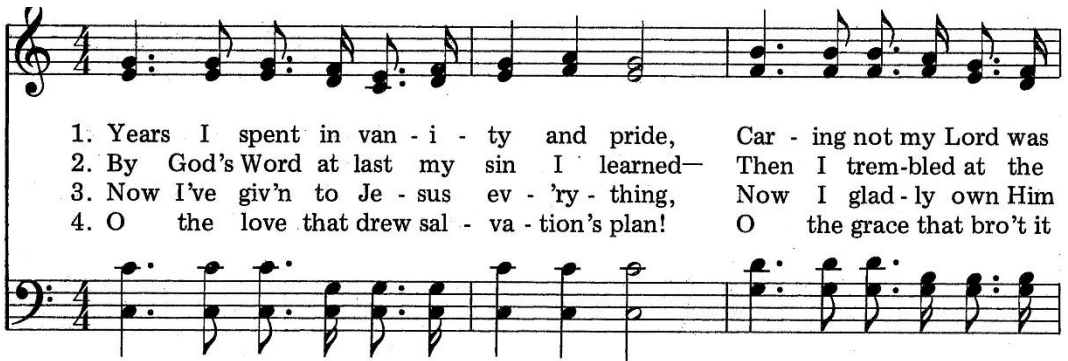
He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

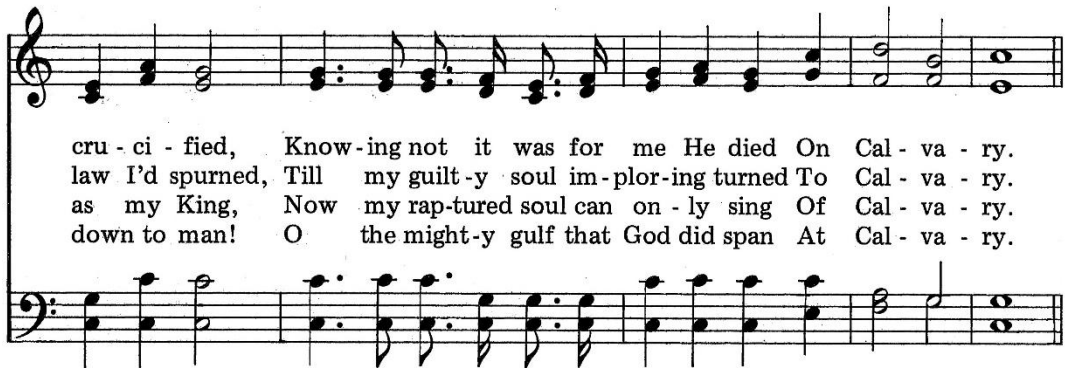
People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN | At Calvary



1. Years I spent in van - i - ty and pride, Car - ing not my Lord was
2. By God's Word at last my sin I learned— Then I trem-bled at the
3. Now I've giv'n to Je - sus ev - 'ry - thing, Now I glad - ly own Him
4. O the love that drew sal - va - tion's plan! O the grace that bro't it



cru - ci - fied, Know-ing not it was for me He died On Cal - va - ry.
law I'd spurned, Till my guilt - y soul im-plor-ing turned To Cal - va - ry.
as my King, Now my rap-tured soul can on - ly sing Of Cal - va - ry.
down to man! O the might-y gulf that God did span At Cal - va - ry.

Refrain

Mer - cy there was great and grace was free, Par - don there was mul - ti -

plied to me, There my bur-den-ed soul found lib - er - ty—At Cal - va - ry.

TEXT: William R. Newell
MUSIC: Daniel B. Towner

CALVARY
9.9.9.4. with Refrain

THE GOSPEL Luke 23:33-43

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

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

See the insert for this week's Gospel Reading and Stewardship Reflection.

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated for the sermon.

SERMON

Rev. Bob Farrow

All stand as able.

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Proper 29

From Planning for Rites and Rituals: Year C

A Resource for Episcopal Worship

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

In peace, we pray to you, O Lord, saying "We praise you, Christ the King; You have come to your people and set us free!"

We give you thanks for the beauty of earth and sky and sea. Grant that we may safeguard them for our posterity. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

We give you thanks for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in our world. Grant your blessing on your people all over the world. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

We give you thanks for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Robert, our bishop, and for Bob, our priest. Shower your blessings upon them, O Lord. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

We give you thanks for our country and those who serve it here and abroad. Help our nation to use wisely the blessings of our history, our geography, our industry, our culture, and our people, so that we might find common purpose and meaning in ensuring the well-being of all who call this land home. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

We give you thanks for this community that St. Nicholas serves. Help us find ways to love our neighbors of faiths or origins different than our own, the refugees, the homeless, the hungry, and the fearful among us. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

Hear our prayer, O Lord, for all who suffer in body or mind or spirit. Hear our prayer for those who serve the sick. Especially we pray for Mike, Christine, Kenny and his family, Joan, Steve, Carson, Ryder, and the grieving family of Jewel. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

Accept our prayer, O Lord, for the souls of your servants departed, and grant to all who mourn a spirit of faith and courage. We praise you, Christ the King;

You have come to your people and set us free!

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, you have established your reign through the work of our merciful Savior Jesus Christ. Give us a share in your authority, which is servanthood, and in your power, which is love. Make us agents of your kingdom, that we may see your glory and be transformed, through Jesus Christ our Sovereign Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION 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

THE OFFERTORY

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Today we will Share the Plate! In response to increased need and interruptions in SNAP benefits, we will be helping our Harris County neighbors with a contribution to Pocket Change, a food bank doing good work in our community. All loose cash (and any checks designated for the purpose) will go to Pocket Change. You're also welcome to use Vanco – see the QR code on the last page of this bulletin.

OFFERTORY HYMN | He lives!

1 I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Refrain:

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart

2 In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair;
I know that He is leading, thro' all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last! *Refrain*

3 Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian! Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,
None other is so loving, so good and kind. *Refrain*

THE DOXOLOGY | *Old 100th*

Please stand as you are able 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | Eucharistic Prayer A

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 Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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 | *Agnus Dei* Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S 164

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

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



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 | Wonderful Peace

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.

RECESSIONAL | *Duke Street* Jesus shall reign

Hymnal 544

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

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

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.

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Your prayers are asked for Mike Sawyer, Christine Risdon, Kenny Hall and his family, Joan Johnson, Steve Morse, Carson Martin, Ryder Hughes, and the grieving family and friends of Jewel Wells. Continued prayers and loving thoughts for our beloved homebound congregants: Liz Dixon and Patricia Collins.

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: Alex Garrett
Ushers: Jim Gilliam & Alex Garrett
Virtual Ministers: William Morgan & Steve
Morse
Eucharistic Minister: Drucye Cox
Crucifer: Shanti Patel

Use this QR code to contribute electronically to today's
Share the Plate using Vanco.



UPCOMING IN THE PARISH

Confirmation Class continues

For everyone: Adult Formation **December 14** after the service: **Being an Episcopalian**

Week 4 – Mission, Ministry, and Confirmation

Wednesday Dec 16, 6 p.m.

Theme: Living out our faith in the world

Advent begins November 30: Flowers & Music donation envelopes will go out November 30. This is a beautiful way to honor a loved one and ensure St. Nicholas has lovely flowers and special music for the holidays.



Tell Out My Soul

Week 3

www.stnicholashamilton.org/stewardship-2026

THE GOSPEL | Luke 23:33-43

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

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE REFLECTION

by Connie Blackmon, Stewardship Chair

This passage from Luke's Gospel is tailor-made for Christ the King Sunday. The scene on the cross exemplifies Christ's reign in humility and sacrifice and reveals his power to grant mercy to those beside him and those who torture him even during his own death.

Luke invites us to contemplate the depth of Jesus' love and the radical nature of his forgiveness. His Gospel urges us to see how repentance and faith transform us and reminds us of the hope and salvation available through Christ even in the face of suffering and death.

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (Luke 23: 33-43.)

By reflecting on Luke's message, we are encouraged to embrace the call to live the values of Christ's kingdom in our relationships and to work on behalf of the common good of our neighbors – our call to stewardship.

STEWARDSHIP FAQ OF THE DAY

by Erin Renfroe, Stewardship Team

Q: I've reached the age where I have to take an RMD from my retirement account. Can I use it to pay my pledge?

A: Yes, you can – and aren't you a smart cookie for thinking of it! If you have to take a Required Minimum Distribution each year, having a check sent directly to St. Nicholas (instead of to you) can have income tax advantages. Check with your financial advisor to see if your particular circumstances qualify.

THE REST OF THE PARISH NEWS...

St. Nicholas Book Club meets December 3 before Evening Prayer. The selection is *James* by Percival Everett.

Christmas Parades are Saturday, December 6 – 11:00 a.m. for Pine Mountain and 5:00 p.m. for Hamilton. If you're feeling the Christmas spirit and want to participate, let Parish Life know by signing up on the sheet in the narthex.

Spaghetti Dinner & Carol Singing – Wednesday, December 10. Martha is serving up dinner at 5:00 p.m., followed by a Christmas carol sing-along with our talented organist, Kevin Anderson. Come have a some holiday fun with your St. Nicholas family!