



**Liturgy of the Word**  
**The Last Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**Sunday, February 14, 2021**

**THE WORD OF GOD**

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

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

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Officiant:** 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**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

**Officiant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Officiant:** Let us pray.

**COLLECT FOR THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**Officiant:** O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE LESSONS

### The First Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12

**Reader:** When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### The Psalm for Today: Psalm 50:1-6

**Reader:** The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken; \*

**People:** he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Reader:** Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, \*

**People:** God reveals himself in glory.

**Reader:** Our God will come and will not keep silence; \*

**People:** before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.

**Reader:** He calls the heavens and the earth from above \*

**People:** to witness the judgment of his people.

**Reader:** "Gather before me my loyal followers, \*

**People:** those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

**Reader:** Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*

**People:** for God himself is judge.

### The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

**Reader:** Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM:** “Alleluia, song of gladness” Hymn 123

**Susan Hollinger**

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

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

**Mark 9:2-9**

**Officiant:** Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Officiant:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. “Larry” Packard**

#### **NICENE CREED**

**Officiant and People:** 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**

##### **Prayers of the People, Form III**

**Reader:** Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**People:** That we all may be one.

**Reader:** Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**People:** That your Name may be glorified by all people.

**Reader:** We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**People:** That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

**Reader:** We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**People:** That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

**Reader:** Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**People:** That our works may find favor in your sight.

**Reader:** Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**People:** That they may be delivered from their distress.

**Reader:** Give to the departed eternal rest;  
**People:** Let light perpetual shine upon them.

**Reader:** We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**People:** May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

**Reader:** Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

**(Moment of Silence)**

### **Prayers for those on Our Prayer List**

#### **Prayer for the Nation**

**Officiant and People:** Almighty God, we commend our nation to your great mercy. Remind us that we must account to you for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States, and especially their officials and representatives, that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes for the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### **Prayer for the Church Universal**

**Officiant and People:** Loving Father, help us to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. May we hold fast to his Baptism by closing the door of hate and opening the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be joyful with clear hearts. May the light of Epiphany lead us as your children to be faithful in shining the light of the Gospel throughout the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### **Prayer for the Church of Our Redeemer**

**Officiant and People:** Lord Jesus, we pray that you will give us ears to hear, hearts to love, and wills devoted to serve; that in the days to come this congregation may be known, not for our glory, but for yours alone – a congregation of people who know the Lord; that this place may be an oasis, a place where people come to find out about you, where lives are straightened out and made whole, where people find the peace that passes understanding. Give us, we pray, a heart to desire these things above all else. We pray through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

### **CONFESSiON OF SiN**

**Officiant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Officiant and People:** 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.*

**Officiant:** 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 LORD'S PRAYER

**Officiant and People:** 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 BLESSING

**Officiant:** O God who at the Baptism of Jesus Christ called all people in their Baptism to ministry and mission, grant that we might follow in his footsteps to shine the light of the Gospel into all the world. And may the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and those you love this day and forever more. *Amen.*

#### DISMISSAL

**Officiant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE: "O God beyond all praising"**  
from "The Worship Collection" vol 7, Invitation Music

**A Media Presentation**

## LET US PRAY

If you have a Prayer Request, please email your request to our Prayer Chair, Bonnie Flippo at [msflip925@aol.com](mailto:msflip925@aol.com). You may also contact the office by email [redeemeraldie@gmail.com](mailto:redeemeraldie@gmail.com) or phone (703) 327-4060. Prayer Requests will be given to the Prayer Team so that they may pray for those in need. If you would like to include their name on our public prayer list, please let us know – only the name will appear on the public prayer list. If your request requires a more private nature, please contact Rev. Larry Packard by email [l.packard@verizon.net](mailto:l.packard@verizon.net) or phone (703) 425-8315.

### “For those whose concerns are known only to God”

All Those Afflicted by the Virus and  
Those Who Care for Them  
The Hollinger Family  
Don & Chris  
Bob Stewart  
Alan White  
Fred & Ginny Warren  
TJ Hill  
Russell & Lula  
Kathy  
Candi & Taylor

The Fairweather Family  
Gwenivere Black  
Barbara Pavone  
Nettie Stevens  
Evan Hansen  
The Rollins Family  
Liam Ferguson  
The Pisciotta Family  
Church of Our Redeemer  
Church of Our Redeemer Vestry Members

Serving Our Country  
Amity Hess  
All First Responders  
All Front Line Workers  
All Hospitals and Emergency Rooms Workers

### Our Children, Our Schools, Our Neighbors, The Unemployed

O Lord, we come to you on behalf of those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work.  
Help us use our public and private wealth that they may find employment  
and receive just payment for their labor; this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*