

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church  
The Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Holy Eucharist  
Sunday, January 26, 2025  
11:00am

*Welcome to Saint Mary's! We are glad you are joining us today for either in person or online worship. If you're new to the Episcopal Church, know that we follow an ancient and enduring pattern of worship called Liturgy, which is designed to give glory to God and draw people closer to God. We sing and pray together, and stand, sit and kneel at different times using our bodies, minds and voices as we worship in the Spirit. All of those directions are in this guide, which is drawn from the Book of Common Prayer you see in the pew racks in front of you. We have communion every Sunday (and sometimes more often!) and everyone is invited to the altar, regardless of membership or from what denomination they've come. If you haven't been baptized, or aren't sure you're ready to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing and talk to a priest after the service about getting baptized. For more information about Saint Mary's, please see our website at [www.stmaryshighpoint.org](http://www.stmaryshighpoint.org) or check out our [Facebook Page](#).*

The liturgy begins on page 355 in The Book of Common Prayer.

## Voluntary

## The Word of God

*All stand and sing*

**Hymn 409** The spacious firmament on high

*The Celebrant says*

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

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

*The Celebrant continues*

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 in excelsis Deo*

Robert Powell, 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**

p. 213

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
**People** And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

*All are seated.*

### A reading from the book of Nehemiah

8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 19 *Caeli enarrant*

*Chant: Charles Villiers Stanford*



<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect  
and re- | vives the | soul; \*  
the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives | wisdom | to the | innocent.

<sup>8</sup> The statutes of the Lord are just  
and re- | joice the | heart; \*  
the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives | light | to the | eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord is clean  
and en- | dures for | ever; \*  
the judgments of the Lord are true and | righteous | alto- | gether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than | much fine | gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than | honey | in the | comb.

<sup>11</sup> By them also is your | servant • en- | lightened, \*  
and in keeping them | there is | great re- | ward.

<sup>12</sup> Who can tell how | often • he of- | fends? \*  
cleanse me | from my | secret | faults.

<sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;<sup>u</sup>  
let them not get do- | minion | over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and | innocent • of a | great of- | fense.

<sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be ac- | ceptable • in your | sight, \*  
O Lord, my | strength and | my re- | deemer.

## A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 778** (*Wonder, Love and Praise*)

1 We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,  
 2 We all are called for service to witness in God's name.  
 3 We all behold one vision, a stark reality;  
 4 Now let us be united and let our song be heard.

our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.  
 Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same:  
 the steward of salvation was nailed upon a tree.  
 Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.

A single, great mission compels us from above  
 to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,  
 Yet resurrected Justice gives rise that we may share  
 We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,

to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.  
 so people of all nations may feel God's warm embrace.  
 free reconciliation and hope amid despair.  
 Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

**The Gospel**

**Luke 4:14-21**

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
 because he has anointed me  
 to bring good news to the poor.  
 He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
 and recovery of sight to the blind,  
 to let the oppressed go free,  
 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

*Gospeller* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*All stand and say together*

## The Nicene Creed

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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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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. We pray for The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria, Chapel of Christ The King, Christ Church, Charlotte, and our companion dioceses of Botswana and Costa Rica, most especially Santa Maria Siquierres.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

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. We pray especially for those who are struggling because of the fires in Southern California, for provision of their aid, and for the courage and skill of those who are fighting the fires.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially Greg, Ray, Robert, Michelle, Hannah, Linda, Carter, Tom, Loyd, Mike, all those on our Parish prayer list, all those on the Daughters of the King prayer list, give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

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

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*Silence*

## Confession of Sin

p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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.**

*Standing, the Celebrant says*

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**

*All stand.*

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*Celebrant*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People**

**And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

**Offertory**

*William Byrd*

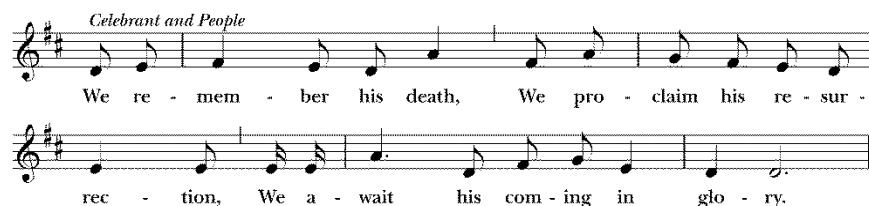
Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments, for therein is my desire. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not unto covetousness. O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity, and quicken me in thy way. O stablish thy word in thy servant, that I may fear thee. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. *~ Psalm 119*





On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,



*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,

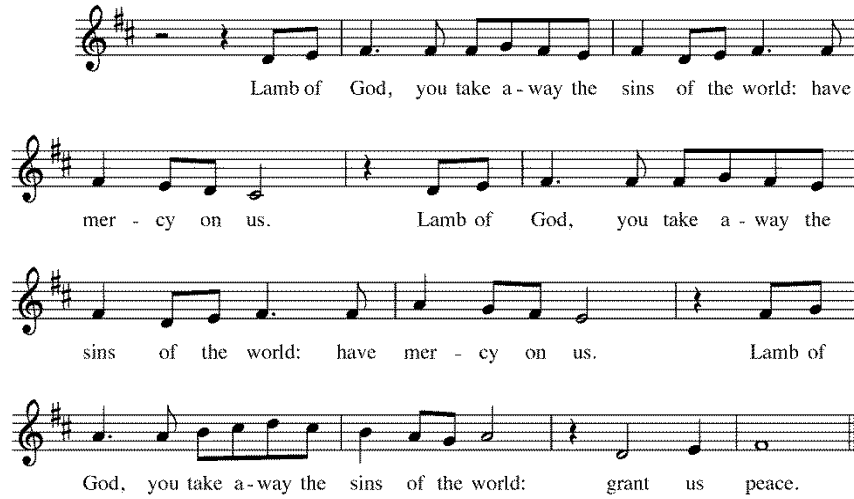


now and for ev - -er. **A--MEN.**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All** 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, forever and ever. Amen.

**The Breaking of the Bread**



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*The Celebrant says*

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.

*All are welcome at God's holy Altar. If you normally receive communion in another church, of any denomination, you are welcome to do so here. If you are drawn to Jesus, but not yet baptized into any Christian community, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. In that case, simply cross your arms over your chest at the rail, or ask the priest, and you will be given a blessing. Ask the priest afterwards about baptism and joining St. Mary's. We offer gluten-free wafers as well. Please let the priest know if you need one.*

**Music at the Communion**

**Motet**

*Kevin Allen*

Meditabor in mandatis tuis,	<i>I will meditate on your commandments,</i>
quæ dilexi valde.	<i>which I have loved exceedingly.</i>
Et lavabo manus meas	<i>And I will lift up my hands</i>
ad mandata tua	<i>to your commandments,</i>
quæ dilexi.	<i>which I love.</i>

*~ Thomas Aquinas*

**Hymn 606** Where true charity and love dwell, God is there

**Sending Out Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

**As the people of Saint Mary's, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread one cup. Amen.**

*After Communion, all stand and the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant blesses the people and then they are dismissed, responding*

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 632**   O Christ, the Word incarnate

**Voluntary**

**Altar Flowers:** The flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. and Mrs. George Hobart, former St. Mary's parishioners.

## Participants in the Liturgy

### *Celebrant*

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

### *Preacher*

The Rev'd Foster Mays

### *Lector*

Phil Johnston

### *Verger*

Kathy Conrad

### *Chalicers*

Sally Bulla, Mary Beth Yates

### *Acolytes*

Ford Ramsay, Whit Ramsay, Henry Simcox

### *Organist & Choirmaster*

Charles Hogan

### *Virtual Verger*

Nick Archibald

### Acknowledgements

Text for the liturgy from *The Book of Common Prayer*, New York: Church Publishing, 1979, 231, 355-365, 388-389; Search committee prayer: *Prayers for Pastor & People*, Compiled and edited by Carl G. Carozzi, New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 1984, 139. Used with permission. The Bible text is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Originated in riteplanning.com, © 2020 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. The following music is reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-716676. All rights reserved. Gloria S-280 and Sanctus S-129, Music by Robert Powell, © Church Publishing; Memorial Acclamation S-138, © Church Publishing; Agnus Dei, © Susan Calvin Fletcher.

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**Herb Goins – Senior Warden**  
**Jason Johnson**  
**Candice Greig**  
**Will Moore**  
**Patrick Simcox**  
**Ellen Walsh**  
**Nancy Amos - Clerk**

**Vestry 2025**  
**Tim Yates – Junior Warden**  
**Steve Bingham**  
**Hodge Cole**  
**Lenora Sparks**  
**Mark Penley**  
**Amanda Gane**

***Keeping in Prayer this Week:*** We pray for those whose needs are closely linked with ours and for those who suffer from any sickness, grief or distress, also remembering and praying for those on our parish prayer list, including Helen Congdon, Linda Nitz, Emily Finch Johnson, Anne Miressi, Trish, Thea Oglesby, Steve, Jerri Phillips, Elizabeth White, Richard Glover, Rick and Margaret Lewis, Frankie Gurganus, Nancy Jenkins, Kathy, Diane Kearns, Joan Cardwell, Bill Fenn, Cheryl Warren, Debbie Ewing, Barry, Helen Idol, Jo Stilley, Pat Hayes, Clara Blythe, Susan Hayne, Sam Hawley, Robert Eamon Kelly, David Stewart, Dick Shaler, Jane Gill-Shaler, Denni Mikola, Shirley, Greg Denison, Ray, Robert Taylor, Michelle Maynard, Hannah, Linda Focarelli, Carter, Tom Peterson, Loyd, Mike Hennen, Connie Strader, Ginny Long, Katherine Anne Marsh, Em, Phil Williams, Kim Williams, Michael, Jennifer Boggs, Land Hurley, Erin McDonough.

***About St Mary's Prayer List:*** St Mary's maintains a published prayer list, which is added to the service leaflet and to the e-news each week. To add someone, please secure permission to use either the first and/or last names from the person to be added, and then contact Denise Story at 336.886.4756 or by email at [admin@stmarysepisc.org](mailto:admin@stmarysepisc.org). Denise needs your name and contact information so we can get pastoral updates periodically. Individuals will be updated at the end of the month unless the request is renewed, which you are welcome to do at any time.

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