

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
The First Sunday of Epiphany
The Baptism of Our Lord
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, January 11, 2026
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 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 616 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

The Celebrant says

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

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

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

p. 213

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.**

Children depart for Children's Chapel.

The Lessons *All are seated.*

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

42:1-9

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.

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

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

Edward Bairstow



- 1 Ascribe to the | LORD, you | gods, *
ascribe to the | LÖRD | glory • and | strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his | Name; *
worship the | LORD in • the | beau•ty of | holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
the God of | glory | thunders; *
the LORD is up- | on the | mighty | waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a | pow'rful | 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 | wilder- | ness of | Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the | oak trees | writhe *
and | strips the | forests | bare.

Second half of the chant

- 9 And in the temple | of the | LORD
-- | all are | crying, | "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the | flood; *
the LORD sits enthroned as | King for | ever- | more.
- 11 The LORD shall give | strength to • his | people; *
the LORD shall give his | people • the | bless•ing of | peace.

A Reading from The Acts of the Apostles

10:34-43

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.”

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

Hymn 121 Christ, when for us you were baptized

The Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
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.”

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

The Sermon

All are seated.

The Rev’d Louis Patrick Mua

PRESENTATION & EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR HOLY BAPTISM

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present Finnegan Robert Arnold to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and Godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God’s help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *this person* in *his* life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant continues

Let us join with *him* who *is* committing *himself* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

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.*

Prayers for the Candidates

During these prayers the family and altar party proceed to the font.

Celebrant Let us now pray for *this person* who *is* to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

Celebrant *Finnegan*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

After all have been baptized, the Celebrant continues

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *this* your *servant* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *him* to the new life of grace. Sustain *him*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *him* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

The Celebrant makes the sign of the cross with chrism on each of the newly baptized, saying

Finnegan, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

The Celebrant presents the baptized (or their sponsor) with a candle lit from the Paschal Candle, saying

Receive the light of Christ, that your life, and *Finnegan's* might be a light to the world. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

The Celebrant continues

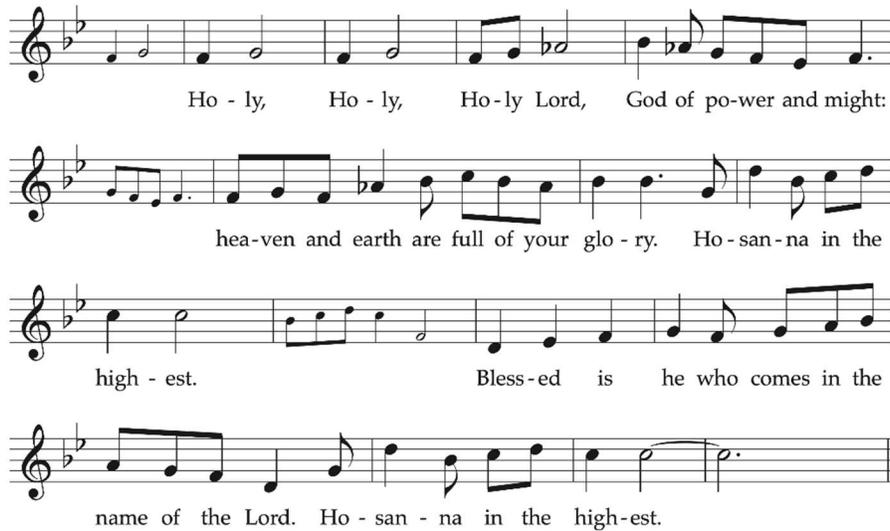
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;

The Celebrant prays the appointed Proper Preface.

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 & Benedictus qui venit

Eddie Bass



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might:
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people kneel as able.

Then the Celebrant continues

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

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 ever. .



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

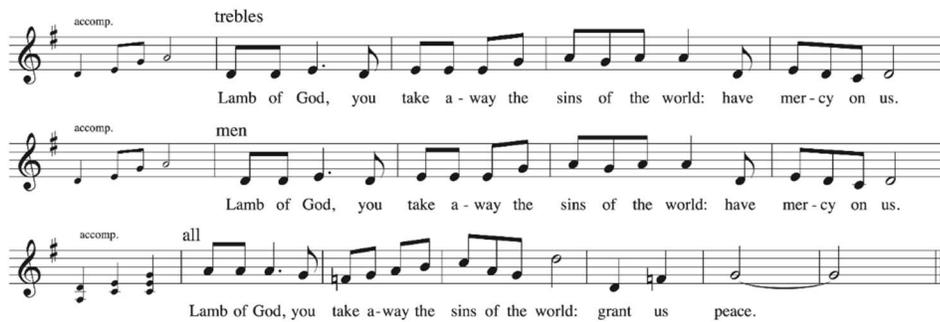
All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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Agnus Dei

Eddie Bass



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.

Music at Communion

from *Christus*

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

When Jesus, our Lord, was born in Bethlehem, in the land of Judea; behold, from the east to the city of Jerusalem there came wise men and said: Say, where is he born the king of Judea? for we have seen his star and are come to adore him. There shall a Star from Jacob come forth, and a Sceptre from Israel rise up, and dash in pieces princes and nations. How brightly beams the morning star! With sudden radiance from afar with light and comfort glowing! Thy Word, Jesus, inly feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing; Praise, O praise such love o'er-flowing!

Numbers 24, Psalm 2, Philipp Nicolai

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.

Hymn 135 Songs of thankfulness and praise

The Celebrant dismisses the people and they respond,

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary Wie Schon leuchtet.

J. Pachelbel

Altar flowers: The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Peggy and Joe Brown by their children, David, Mike and Meg.

Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

Preacher

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

Lector

Kerr Ramsay

Verger

Kathy Conrad

Chalicers

Betsy Lehman, Jean Almos

Acolytes

Henry Simcox, Ford Ramsay,
Whit Ramsay

Choirmaster

Christopher Brayne

Virtual Verger

Willow Travis

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, Music by Robert Powell, ©1985, Church Pension Fund. Sanctus and Agnus Dei from *Mass for St. Mary's* by Eddie Bass. Used by permission.

Amanda Gane – Senior Warden
Jason Johnson
Julian Weston
Will Moore
Patrick Simcox
Ellen Walsh
Mike Boggs - Clerk

Vestry 2026
Tim Yates – Junior Warden
Alicia Archibald
Dale Strayhorn
Lenora Sparks
Mark Penley
Kathy Conrad

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, Pat Hayes, Clara Blythe, Susan Hayne, Sam Hawley, Robert Eamon Kelly, David Stewart, Jane Gill-Shaler, Denni Mikola, Shirley, Greg Denison, Ray, Hannah, Linda Focarelli, Carter, Tom Peterson, Loyd, Mike Hennen, Connie Strader, Em, Kim Williams and family, Jennifer Boggs, Land Hurley, Erin McDonough, Gary King, Betty Jean and Les Ipock, Kim Susnik, Tonya Yates, Kim, Carlin, Jess, Claire, Katharyn Ernst, Laura Covington Marsh, Suzanne Swadener, Belen Perez, Robert Swab and family, Brenda B, Ben and Meredith Jenkins and family, Diane Rankin, Stephanie Gardner-Cole, Angel Berdiales, Mike Cook, Judy Jarrell, James Pardue.

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 336.884-4730 or by email at admin@stmaryshighpoint.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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