

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church  
The Fifth Sunday of Epiphany  
Holy Eucharist  
Sunday, February 8, 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](http://www.stmaryshighpoint.org) or check out our [Facebook Page](#).*

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

**Voluntary**      Choral

*Louis Vierne*

## The Word of God

*All stand and sing*

**Hymn 381**      Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

*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

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*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Children depart for Children's Chapel.*

## The Lessons

*All are seated.*

### A reading from The Book of Isaiah

58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.  
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.  
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?  
  
Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

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

## Psalm 112:1-10

*Beatus vir*



- 1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the | Lord \*  
and have great de- | light in | his com- | mandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be | mighty • in the | land; \*  
the generation of the | upright | will be | blest.
- 3 Wealth and riches will | be in • their | house, \*  
and their | righteousness • will | last for | ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness | for the | upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and | full | of com- | passion.
- 5 It is good for them to be | generous • in | lending \*  
and to | manage • their af- | fairs with | justice.
- 6 For they will | never • be | shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in | ever- | lasting • re- | membrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any | evil | rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they | put their | trust in • the | Lord.

8 Their heart is established and | will not | shrink, \*  
until they see their de- | sire up- | on their | enemies.

9 They have given | freely • to the | poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will | hold up • their | head with | honor.

10 The wicked will see it and be angry;  
they will gnash their teeth and | pine a- | way; \*  
the de- | sires of • the | wicked • will | perish.

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

2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord  
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.

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

**Hymn 610**    Lord, whose love through humble service

## The Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

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

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

## The Sermon

*All are seated.*

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

*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

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, especially Helen, Linda, Emily, Anne, Trish, Thea, Steve, Jerri, Elizabeth, Richard, Rick and Margaret, Laura, and all those on our Parish prayer list;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, St. Michael And All Angels', St. Peter's, Charlotte, and our companion dioceses of Botswana and Costa Rica, most especially Santa Maria Siquierres..  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Jennifer, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially the birth of Erik, son of Audrey and Edsel Pineda.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,**

known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

*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 Anthem**

As truly as God is our Father.

*William Mathias*

As truly as God is our Father,  
So just as truly is God our Mother.

In our Father, God Almighty,  
We have our being;  
In our merciful Mother  
We are re-made and restored.

Our fragmented lives are knit together;  
And by giving and yielding ourselves  
Through grace, to the holy spirit  
We are made whole.

It is I, the strength and goodness of Fatherhood.  
It is I, the wisdom of Motherhood.  
It is I, the light and grace of holy love.  
It is I, the Trinity, it is I, the unity.

I am the sovereign goodness in all things.  
It is I who teach you to love.  
It is I who teach you to desire.  
It is I who am the reward of all true desiring.

All shall be well,  
And all shall be well,  
And all manner of thing shall be well.  
Amen.



( Words: Julian of Norwich)

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## The Great Thanksgiving

### *Eucharistic Prayer B*

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*Celebrant*      *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*      *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

#### *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."

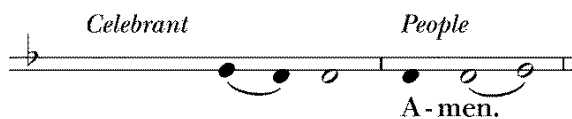
Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

### *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 the Communion**

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake  
Lay not our sins to our charge,  
But forgive that is past  
And give us grace to amend our sinful lives.  
To decline from sin and incline to virtue  
That we may walk in a perfect heart  
Before thee now and evermore.  
Amen.

*Richard Farrant*

### **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.*

**Hymn 372** Praise to the living God!

*The Celebrant dismisses the people and they respond,*

**People** Thanks be to God.

**Voluntary** Fantasia Chromatica

*Jan Pieterzon Sweelinck*

**Altar flowers:** The flowers on the altar are given by Punny Wasmer to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, Peter Wasmer and in honor of her three children, Bethanna, Peter, and Cece.

## Participants in the Liturgy

### *Celebrant*

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

### *Preacher*

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

### *Lector*

Joseph Ralph

### *Verger*

Kathy Conrad

### *Chalicers*

Jim Gane, Martha Stewart

### *Acolytes*

Henry Simcox, Alex Brehm

### *Choirmaster*

Christopher Brayne

### *Virtual Verger*

### 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. Carlozzi, 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](http://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, and words Lord, whose love by Albert Bayley, ©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, Land Hurley, Erin McDonough, Gary King, Betty Jean and Les Ipock, Kim Susnik, Kim, Carlin, Jess, Claire, Katharyn Ernst, Laura Covington Marsh, Suzanne Swadener, Belen Perez, the family of Robert Swab, Brenda B, Ben and Meredith Jenkins and family, Diane Rankin, Stephanie Gardner-Cole, Angel Berdiales, Mike Cook, Judy Jarrell, James Pardue, Laura Simcox.

***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](mailto: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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