

Paul Gauguin 1892

CHILDREN OF THE MOST HIGH

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

23rd February 2025 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany **Opening Voluntary -** Like The First Bird

The Procession

Hymn #390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Words: Joachim Neander (1650–1680); tr. Hymnal 1940, alt.
Music: Lobe den Herren, melody from Erneuerten Gesangbuch, 1665; harm. The Chorale Book for England, 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891–1971)

The Word of God

Song of Praise #S-280



Section: Canticles Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis

The Collect

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty."

And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Psalm

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 (read responsively by half verse)

Noli aemulari

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; * do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, * and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; * dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- 4 Take delight in the LORD, * and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, * and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light * and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 7 Be still before the LORD * and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, * the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; * do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *

but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; * you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; * they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; * he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The LORD will help them and rescue them; *
 he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
 because they seek refuge in him.

The Second Lesson

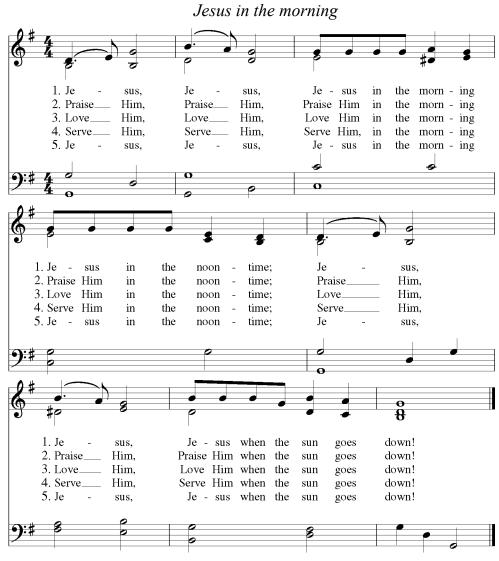
1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Gospel Hymn LEVAS # 76



Title: Jesus in the Morning Words: Traditional

The Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed - page 358
Prayers of the People Form VI - page 392
The Peace
Announcements
Offertory - God of the Sparrow
Hymn 380

Carl Schalk

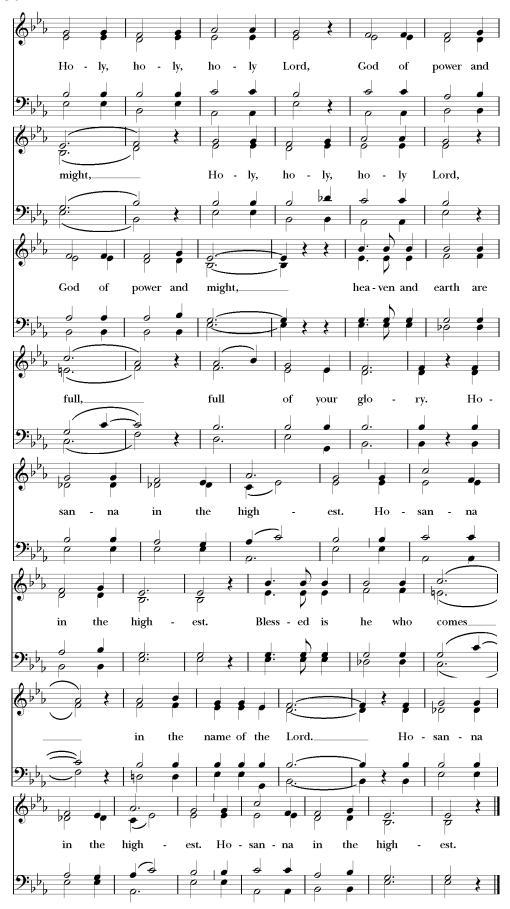
From all that dwell below the skies



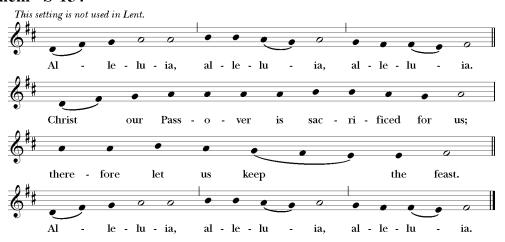
Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para, of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711) Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes Octante trois de David, 1551, alt, ; harm, after Louis Bourgeois (1510-1561)

The Holy Communion

Sanctus S-130



Fraction Anthem S-154



Words: Psalm 34

Music: James E. Moore Jr.

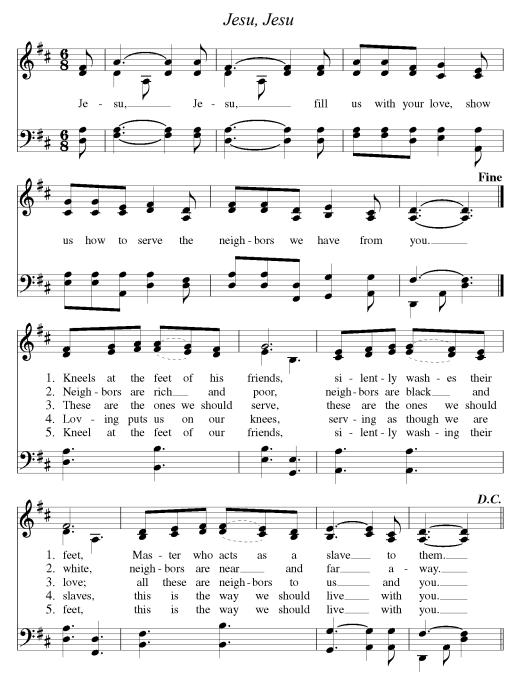
Communion Hymns #831

Ubi Caritas (Sing 5 times, slowly)



Translation: Where true charity and love abide, God is there.

Words: Latin, 8th c., tr. Malcolm Naea Chun (b. 1954) Music: Jacques Berthier (1923–1994)



Words: John 13:1-17; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969 Music: Ghana Folk Song; adapt. Tom Colvin 1969; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

Post Communion Prayer - page 366

Hymn #657 Love divine all loves excelling



Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788) Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811–1887)

The Sending Forth - page 366 **Closing Voluntary** - Fugue in G Minor

J.S. Bach

- Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our 50th wedding anniversary, by Pam and Joe Herold.
- Fourth Sunday Loose Offering goes to Family Promise.
- We are **In Need** of adults to assist with children's church. If you are interested, please contact Sharon George at sleeorge864@gmail.com
- South Main Chapel and Mercy Center is in need of Men's and Women's socks and underwear. Donations may be left in the cloister or by the church office
- In Need: Hope Missions is in need of small bottles of baby powder, corn starch powder, and foot powder. Donated items can be placed in the cloister or on a back table in the parish hall.
- Fiber Friends and Fellowship meets every Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall.
- *WWW* meets every Tuesday from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Parlor.
- Daughters of the King (DOK) Study Session will be Saturday March, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th from 10 a.m. - Noon.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Grace Church BBQ will be Oct. 11 2025
- If you are interested in the Bishop's
 Bible in a year challenge visit
 https://www.edusc.org/bible-in-a-year/
- If you are interested in receiving **Bishop Daniel Richards weekly meditations** called *Notes Along the Way*, visit https://www.edusc.org/notes-from-along-the-way/.

Grace Notes

- Confirmation: If you have taken the class and are wanting to get confirmed on March 9th or Nov 2nd, Let Nikki know so we can get your form filled out and make sure you are on the list.
- Wednesday night suppers at Grace are BACK! Our next supper followed by Bingo is Wednesday Feb. 26th at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$11 per adult and \$6 per child. If you would like to attend RSVP to the church office by Monday, Feb. 24th at Noon
- Moms Meet up is Thursday, Feb. 27th from 5-7 p.m.
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4th. Donations at the door.
- **Ash Wednesday Liturgies** are Noon and 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5th.
- Day of Discernment is March 15th at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. For those considering ordination. For more information visit https://www.edusc.org/blog/diocesan-day-of-discernment-set-for-march-15-2025/
- The **Outreach Committee** is preparing to choose an organization to support for this calendar year. Besides being the beneficiary of the BBQ proceeds, the organization should have other ways our congregation can volunteer, support, and be involved. We are asking members for suggestions. Please submit your suggestions to the Church Office, or talk with Tom or Connie Pearce or Janet Rippy.
- *Fiber Friends and Fellowship* is in need of yarn for their yarn stash. If you are interested in donating any yarn you may leave it in Deacon Mary's Office.
- <u>Lenten Study</u>: we will be studying Psalms 120-134, the Songs of Ascent. The book is *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*, by Eugene Peterson. Read two chapters a week. We meet on Sundays in Lent at 9:15 starting March 9th.
- Bring in your Palm Sunday palm fronds from previous years. We will burn them up on Shrove Tuesday to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. The Bowl is found in the cloister between now and Shrove Tuesday.

Those Who Serve

Vestry-in-Charge: Cory Trotter Second Counter: Jodie Webb Lector: Mary Harris Edwards Lector: Jane Williams Intercessor: Hugh Osburn Chalice 2: Brett Dixon

1st Crucifer: Nathanael Burden Server/Gospel Bearer: Cory Trotter

Torch Bearers:

Ushers: Mike Digby, Debbie Hand **Linen Guild:** Dixie Harris

Altar Guild: Cindy Baker, Lisa Arnold Organist/Choirmaster: Steve Grant Organist Emeritus: Bill Scott

Those with birthdays this week

Mary Jane Ames Jerry Peeler

Allan Wilford Rick Stanland

Taylor Bilbrey Anna Rose Burden

Jackson Potter Kate Williams

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Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8 am - 2pm