

Christ United

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025



Welcome!

(Stand)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor,

C: **and to proclaim release to the captives. Alleluia. (Luke 4:18)**

P: Our mission statement guides us so that:

C: **we welcome all people to experience the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.**

A: God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture.

People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

Opening Song (Stand)

Prayer of the Day:

P: In you, O Lord our God, we find our joy, for through your law and your prophets you formed a people in mercy and freedom, in justice and righteousness. Pour your spirit on us today, that we who are Christ's body may bear the good news of your ancient promises to all who seek you.

C: **Amen**

A: **The First Bible Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10(Sit)**

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A: **Psalm 19**

A: **The Second Bible Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: **Holy Gospel: Luke 4:14-21(Stand)**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 4th Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The Gospel lesson is read

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Kids Time and the Sermon (Sit)

Song of the Day (Stand)

Apostles' Creed (Stand)

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
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. Amen.**

The Prayers

- P:** To God who welcomes **all** in love, let us pray for the good of the church and the concerns of those in need.
- A:** As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture: for parents, grandparents, and godparents; teachers and mentors; deacons, pastors, bishops, and scholars. Inspire passion for the stories of faith. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of quarks and atoms, vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** As your word and presence revive the soul, accompany all experiencing depression, anxiety, or eating disorders; be a source of strength for all affected by memory loss and their caregivers; draw near to all undergoing medical treatment or surgery. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** As we are made one body in baptism, strengthen all who serve. Renew and inspire all who use their gifts in this congregation, community, and the world. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- A:** As our faith is strengthened by saints who have gone before us, we remember leaders of the early church, and beloved friends and family who have died. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**
- Other intercessions may be offered by anyone at this time.*
- P:** God of every land and nation, you have created all people and you dwell among us in Jesus Christ. Listen to the cries of those who pray to you, and grant that, as we proclaim the greatness of your name, all people will know the power of love at work in the world. We asked this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

The Peace is shared at this time

- P:** The peace of the Lord be always with you. **C: And also with you.**
People may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: Peace be with you.

Offering –

January Noisy Offerings to: Samaritas (**Stand**)

P: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life,

C: **you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might..

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light. By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

C: **Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Sit) *The Bread is broken*

P: All who are hungry and thirsty, come. The table is ready.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion today is open to all. The Episcopal and Lutheran Churches believe that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine.

Communion is either wafer and individual cup, or celebrated as spiritual communion. You will receive a wafer from the pastor (gluten-free wafers are available upon request). You will then take a cup from the tray the assistant is holding (wine in the outer rings, grape juice in the center). Eat the wafer and drink from the cup. You will not be ushered but ask that you come forward when ready and return to your seat when you have received communion.

(Stand)

P Let us pray.

C **Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

The Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Song (Stand)

Announcements

Faith Word for the Week

Last week's word:

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A: And next week.

C: **Bring a friend!**

P: Presiding Minister

A: Assisting Minister

C: Congregation