

# Holy Eucharist

The Last Sunday After the Epiphany

Sunday, February 27, 2022

## Liturgy of the Word

### Entrance Rite

*At the sound of the bell, all stand for the Entrance of the Ministers into the church.*

### Hymn

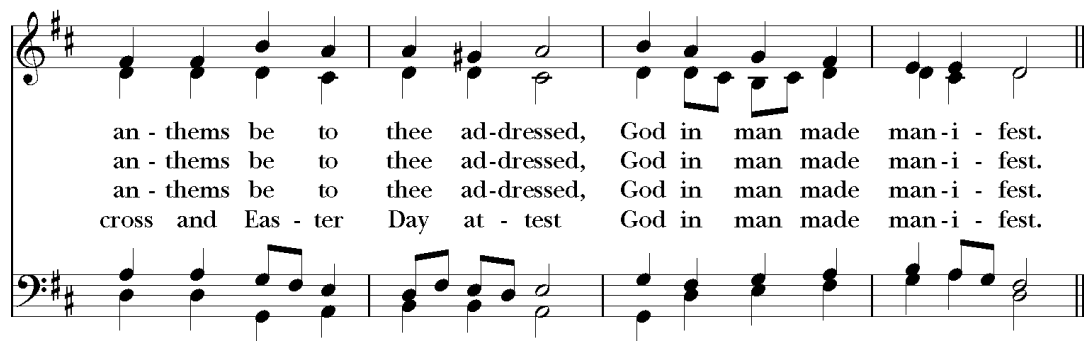
*Songs of thankfulness and praise*

Hymnal 135

1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal-sied limbs and faint-ing soul;  
4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin-ing in re - splen-dent light,

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;  
and at Ca - na, wed - ding-guest, in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

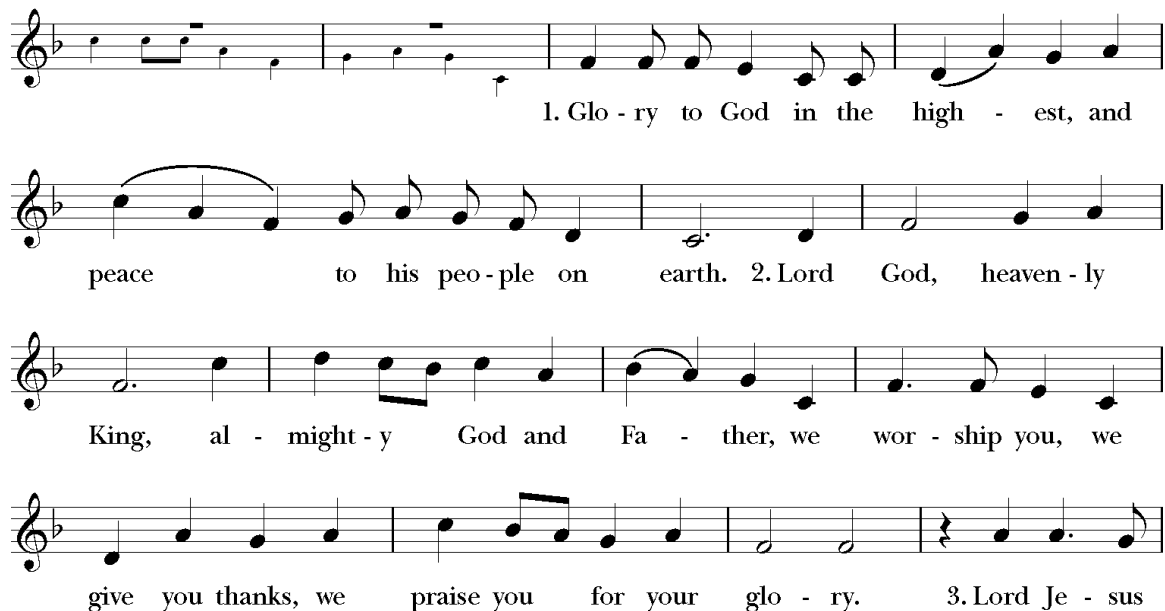
Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant says*

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.*

*The following is sung, all standing*



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - mighty 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.

### Collect of the Day

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

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his

likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **First Reading**

Exodus 34:29-35

*All sit.*

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm**

*Remain seated.*

### **Psalm 99**

BCP p. 728

*Dominus regnavit*

1 The LORD is King;  
let the people tremble; \*  
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake.

2 The LORD is great in Zion; \*  
he is high above all peoples.

- 3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 4 “O mighty King, lover of justice,  
you have established equity; \*  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”
- 5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God  
and fall down before his footstool; \*  
he is the Holy One.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,  
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*  
they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
- 8 “O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; \*  
you were a God who forgave them,  
yet punished them for their evil deeds.”
- 9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God  
and worship him upon his holy hill; \*  
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have

renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

## Sequence

*All stand.*

*Oh Light of Light, Love given birth*

Hymnal 133

1 O Light of Light, Love giv - en birth; Je - sus, Re -  
2 Two pro - phets, who had faith to see, with your e -  
3 May all who seek to praise a - right through pur - er

deem - er of the earth: more bright than day your face did  
lect found com - pan - y; the heavens a - bove your glo - ry  
lives show forth your light. To you, the King of glo - ry,

1-2  
show, your rai - ment whit - er than the snow.  
named, your Fa - ther's voice his Son pro - claimed.  
now all

*Final Ending*  
faith - ful hearts a - dor - ing bow.

## Holy Gospel

Luke 9:28-43a

*All stand.*

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

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to

pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

## **Sermon**

## **Nicene Creed**

*All stand.*

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**

*All remain standing.*

The Presider: Let us lift up the concerns of the world to God in prayer remembering all of God's created life on our planet, every human being, and our own personal needs and concerns

The Leader: Let us pray for the Church and each one of its members that individually and together we may boldly follow the Jesus who calls us to imitate his ministry, his compassion, and his faithfulness. We



remember especially the Anglican Communion, our own Episcopal Church in the United States, our diocese – its people, parishes, and programs, and our companion dioceses of Bor and Brazilia. Lord, in your mercy,

The People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Leader: Let us pray for the mission of the Church that we may confess our faith, extend the message of the Gospel, and serve the Kingdom of God in all we do. Lord in your mercy,

The People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Leader: Let us pray for the nations of the world asking God to guide all nations towards peace, justice, equality, and righteousness. Help all baptized Christians recognize that our identity as Christians is more important than our citizenship in any country and to work for the good of all people everywhere. Lord in your mercy,

The People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Leader: Let us pray for those who suffer in any way: for the sick, the dying, and those who grieve; for those who are oppressed by war, terrorism, and violence; for those who see us as enemies and those whom we see as enemies; for those in prison, those who are homeless and hungry, and those who are without hope or human compassion; for the earth that suffers the weight and destruction of human carelessness and greed; and for all others in need, asking not only that you would relieve this suffering, but that you might help relieve this suffering through the hands of Christians like us, and that our baptism might move us to be your hands in the world. Lord, in your mercy,

The People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Leader: We pray for those who have died into God's eternity, especially those whom we hold close to our hearts, \_\_\_\_\_; that the power of their baptism may be fulfilled in their share of Christ's resurrection, and that all who have died might be received and forgiven through the mercy of God. Lord, in your mercy,

The People: **Hear our prayer.**

*(silence)*

The Presider: Loving and gracious God, we give thanks for calling us to follow Jesus in ministry to all around us. Hear our prayers as we come before you in Jesus Christ through the power of your Holy Spirit.

The People: **Amen.**

*All remain standing.*

### **Confession of Sin**

*All kneel.*

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence.*

*Minister and People*

God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit

keep you in eternal life.

## Peace

*All stand.*

*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.*

## Holy Communion

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

## Offertory Hymn

*Alleluia! sing to Jesus*

Hymnal 460

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are: 1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the; \*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we; 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on; 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the; \*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the. The piano accompaniment consists of a simple harmonic accompaniment with a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the  
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is  
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the  
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of  
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the  
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the  
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -  
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -  
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a  
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty  
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,  
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our  
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery  
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his  
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the  
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and  
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.  
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

## Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

*Celebrant*  
 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 proceeds/chants

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

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The treble staff contains a melody of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment of quarter notes. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. It features a long note in the treble staff with a slur, indicating a sustained sound. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. It features a long note in the treble staff with a slur, indicating a sustained sound. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. It features a long note in the treble staff with a slur, indicating a sustained sound. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

The fifth system concludes the melody and accompaniment. It features a long note in the treble staff with a slur, indicating a sustained sound. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel.*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see the goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took

bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Presider and People:*

*Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

*The Presider continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share in these gifts may be filled with your Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Blessed Mary the God-bearer, Blessed Peter our patron, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

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

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

*All say:*

*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.*

*All say:*

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today 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.*

*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 for ever. Amen*

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*Then may be said the Fraction Anthem.*

The Presider:                    This is the true bread which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.

The People respond:        Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

## **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

*(Those joining virtually and those who do not feel comfortable for any reason coming to the rail for Communion should join with the Celebrant saying these words, those gathered in-person who will receive Communion will not say these words):*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

*All are invited to come to our Lord's table for a blessing. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the blessing of communion. Others may come forward for a blessing from the priest indicating this by crossing their arms over their chest.*

*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.

# Communion Hymn

85

## Circle the table

1 Cir-cle the ta - ble, hands now ex - tend. Wel-come a stran - ger,  
2 See on the ta - ble, set in Christ's name, signs of the suf - fer-ing  
3 Eat and be thank - ful, lift up your praise. God has for-giv - en

greet a new friend. O - pen your cir - cle, let it ex - pand.  
love ov - er - came: cup of sweet wine and loaf of fine bread.  
your self-ish ways. Go from the ta - ble, go forth to share

Wel-come God's child-ren from far a - way lands.  
All things are rea - dy so come and be fed.  
with your new neigh-bors the love you found there.

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After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

### Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

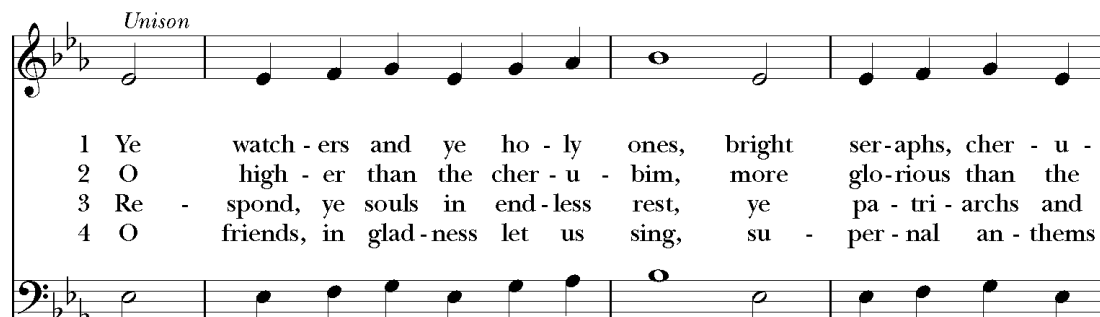
May the God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God's countenance turn toward you and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Recessional Hymn

Ye watchers and ye holy ones

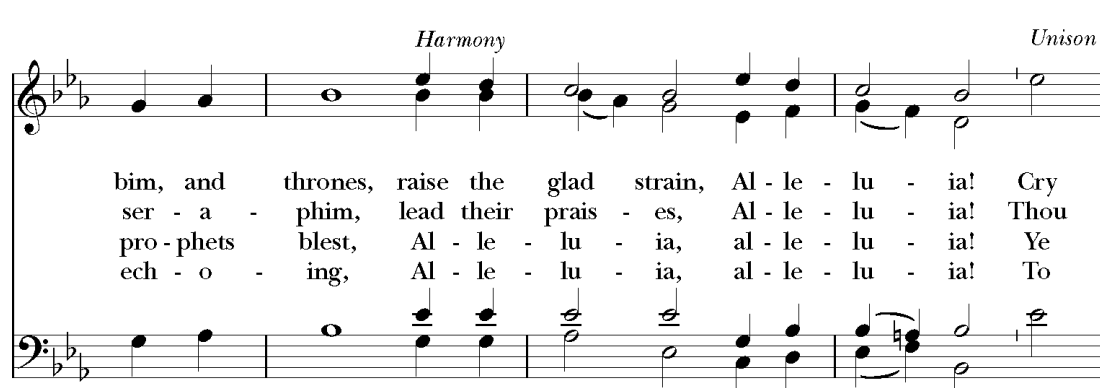
Hymnal 618

*Unison*



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - aphs, cher - u -  
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - rious than the  
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and  
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems

*Harmony* *Unison*



bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry  
ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou  
pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye  
ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To

out, do - min - ions, prince-doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 bear-er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in

*Harmony*

choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

*Unison*

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## Dismissal

*Celebrant* Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go in peace to love and serve our Lord!  
*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!!

## A Note on Today's Readings

*The Last Sunday after the Epiphany—Year C*

Welcome to our parish. On this final Sunday before Lent, the Epiphany theme of the manifestation of Jesus as the Son of God ends with the account of the most striking manifestation of all, prior to the Resurrection. The transfiguration of Christ was the turning point in his ministry, and for this reason, it comes at this turning

point in the Church's year.

In today's Gospel reading, we are told that the conversation between Jesus and Moses and Elijah concerned his departure (in Greek, "exodus"), which he was to perform in Jerusalem. Luke's use of exodus reminds us of the close relationship in meaning as well as in time between Passover and the dying and rising of Jesus. Luke also tells us a few verses later that it was at this point that he "set his face to go up to Jerusalem," to his certain death. So today we set our faces to go through Lent and Good Friday in order to arrive at Easter.

The Old Testament reading gives us a parallel event in the life of Moses. In his encounters with God during his leadership of Israel, Moses' face was transfigured. The light of God shone forth from him. Starting with that story, Paul, in our second reading, describes the process of our growth in grace and one of gradually being transfigured into the image and likeness of Christ.

Today is traditionally the last Sunday we use "Alleluia" until Easter. It is not that we give up rejoicing, but rather that do this so that the restoration of its use at Easter will be a dramatic sign of Easter's newness. We now move to our Lenten pilgrimage looking toward the ultimate transfiguration of all people in the eternal Easter.

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