



The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

January 28, 2024
8:00A.M.

***Welcome!** Whether you are a first-time visitor, longtime member, or somewhere in-between, welcome to this place where together we sing, read, pray, listen, and break bread in thanksgiving and praise of the living God whose love brings new life for us and for the world. **About the service:** An Episcopal worship service may seem difficult to follow if it is unfamiliar to you; please participate as you are able and ask someone near you for assistance if you need it. We use this leaflet and the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). **For more information:** Fill out a welcome card, located in the pew rack, and drop it in the offering plate or return it by mail. Call the Parish Office at 225-387-5141 with questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other needs.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand when the ministers of the service enter

Opening Acclamation

BCP 323

Gloria

BCP 324

The appointed Collect of the Day and Lessons are found on the next page.

The Sermon

The Rev. Christopher R. Duncan

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

The Prayers of the People

see insert

The Confession & Absolution

BCP 331

The Peace

Welcome & Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP 333

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 339

The Blessing & Dismissal

BCP 340

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Read responsively by half verse.

Psalms 111

- ¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- ² Great are the deeds of the Lord! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.
- ³ His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- ⁴ He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
- ⁵ He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- ⁷ The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.
- ⁸ They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists,” and that “there is no God but one.” Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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

All stand.
Mark 1:21-28

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Today's flowers are given to the greater glory of God.



The Prayers of the People

Intercessor Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; Shannon, our Bishop; Chris, Drew, Don, and Lynn, our priests; Pat, our deacon; and Austin, our seminarian; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the clergy and people of St. Anna's and Anna's Place, New Orleans and for the Dodwell House Community Resource Center.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially, Joe, our President; Jeff, our Governor; and Sharon, our Mayor; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray for the victims of violence and war, especially those in Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Ellie, Holly, Marylyn, Deanne, Jim, Bob, Laura, Allyson, Michael, Beth, DJ, those on our prayer list, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity.

O Lord and giver of life, receive our prayers for expectant mothers, especially Sydney, Anna Katherine, Alyce, Caroline, Maggie, Sloane, and Elizabeth, that they may happily come to the time of birth, and serving thee in all things may rejoice in thy providence. We thank thee, O Lord, for the birth of Mack Martin Livingston and Sutton DeBose Bullock.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Jackie Hamilton, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**