

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany



Holy Eucharist II

February 9, 2025
10:30 a.m.

Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You
130 39th Ave. Pl. NW, Hickory, NC 28601
(828) 324-1351

Welcome to St. Alban's. We are grateful for your presence.
Cloth pew bags are available for our younger worshipers.
Please return to the basket as you depart.

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

Hymnal 381

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

(Celebrant and People)

BCP p. 355

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

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Lory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

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.*

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

(The people sit.)

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of

tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” [⁹And he said, “Go and say to this people:

‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.’

¹⁰Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed.”

¹¹Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said:

“Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;
¹²until the LORD sends everyone far away,
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

¹³Even if a tenth part remain in it,
it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled.”

The holy seed is its stump.]

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 138 (*Sung in unison*)

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *

because of your love and faithfulness;

³For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.

⁴When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

⁵All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁶They will sing of the ways of the LORD, *
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁷Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

⁸Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

⁹The LORD will make good his purpose for me; *
O LORD, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

(The people sit.)

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Church in Corinth.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

I, the Lord of sea and sky

WLP 812

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice part and a piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn. The piano accompaniment features a simple harmonic structure with a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn a -
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will

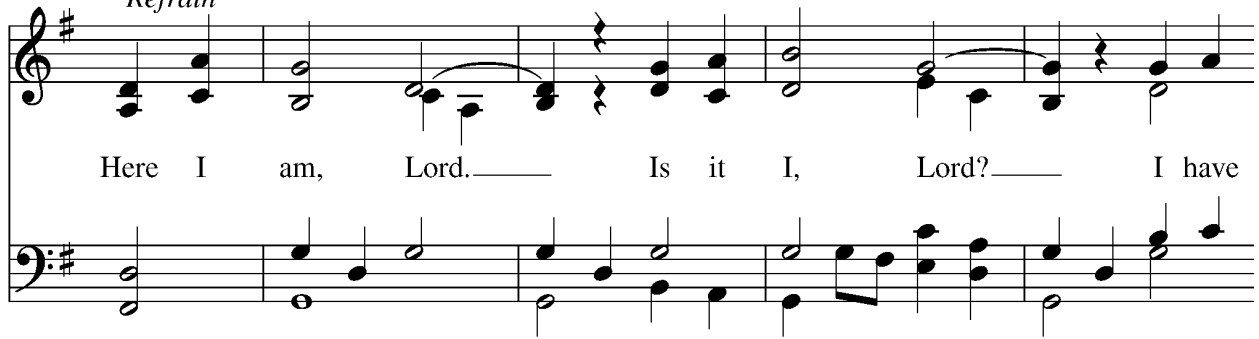
save.
way.
save.

I who made the stars of night,
I will break their hearts of stone,
Fin - est bread I will pro - vide

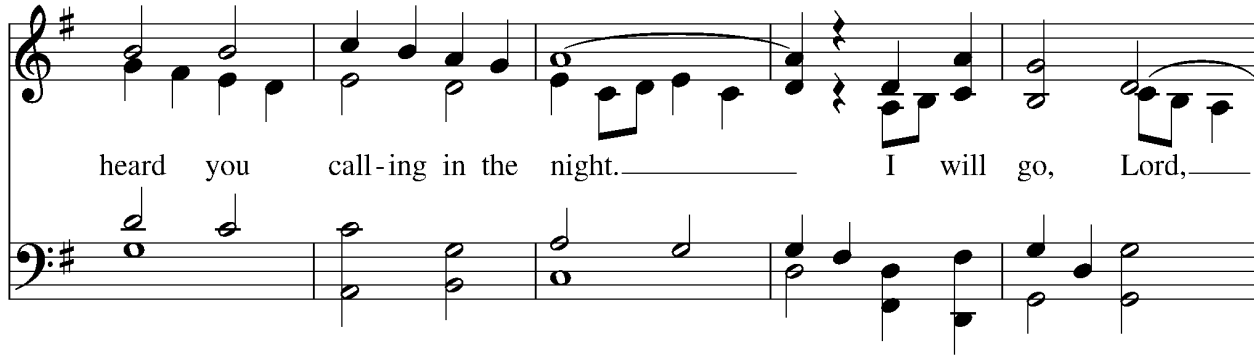
I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my
Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my

light to them? Whom shall I send? _____
word to them. Whom shall I send? _____
life to them. Whom shall I send? _____

Refrain



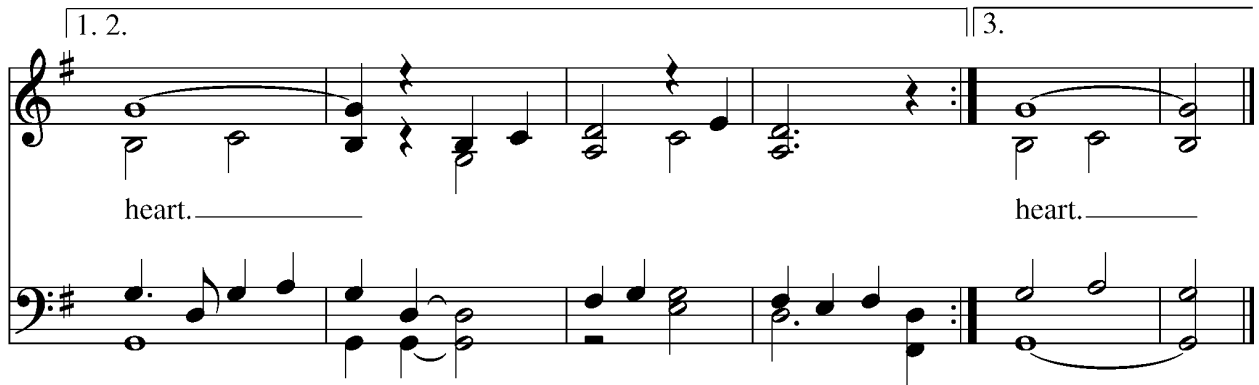
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard you call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord,



if you lead me, I will hold your peo - ple in my



heart. heart.

1. 2. 3.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

(All stand.)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Bill Livingston

The Nicene Creed

(All stand.)

BCP p. 358

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.

The Prayers of the People *(People stand or kneel)*

We have heard God's call to us, like Isaiah, like the disciples. Let us begin our response to that call by coming together in prayer for the Church and the world, saying: "Christ, hear our prayer."

Intercessor

For all those who have heard God's call and follow in faith, especially for the Church, that we may continue to dedicate our lives to Christ's service, let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

For those who think themselves unable to do God's will, that they may be strengthened in courage and given the boldness that comes with God's Spirit, let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

For leaders of nations and for those who serve in government, that all people may work for peace and justice, let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

For the needs of people everywhere, for those in places of strife and conflict, for all those who live in the shadow of war and poverty, let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

For the sick and the dying, and those who minister to them; for all who are in crisis or need; and especially for all those on our Parish Prayer List, let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

We pray for those who have died. Especially Faye Burner. That they may see you face to face in the glory of your kingdom, let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

At this time, we offer our prayers, thanksgivings or intercessions, silently or aloud:

Prayers may be offered.

Let us pray,

People ***Christ, hear our prayer.***

The Celebrant concludes

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen*

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 359

Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

BCP p. 360

Celebrant 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.)

BCP p. 360

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

Anthem

Will you Come and Follow Me

arr. Tom Trenney

Doxology

(People stand as offering is presented)

Hymn 380, verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all the creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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:

Sanctus

S128

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 Alban 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. AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Gluten free waters are available upon request at the altar rail.

Two chalices are offered at the altar rail. The first one is offered to those who prefer to drink from the cup.

The second chalice follow for those who prefer to intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine before consuming.

Please hold the wafer in your open palm to indicate your preference to the server.

The Communion of the People

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words.

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Communion Hymn

Will you come and follow me

WLP 757

1. Will you come and fol - low me if
 2. Will you leave your self be - hind if
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see if
 4. Will you love the "You" you hide if
 5. Christ, your sum - mons ech - oes true when

I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and
 I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and
 I but call your name? Will you set the pris - 'ner free and
 I but call your name? Will you quell the fear in - side and
 you but call my name. Let me turn and fol - low you and

nev - er be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you
 nev - er be the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your
 nev - er be the same? Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do
 nev - er be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to re -
 nev - er be the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your

let my Name be known? Will you let my life be grown in
 life at - tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer prayer in
 such as this un - seen? And ad - mit to what I mean in
 shape the world a - round through my sight and touch and sound in
 love and foot - steps show, thus I'll move and live and grow in

1. 2. 3. 4. | 5. (Final Ending)

you and you in me?
 you and you in me?
 you and you in me?
 you and you in me?

5. you and you in me.

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Come, thou fount of every blessing

H 686

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thy Strong Word did Cleave the Darkness

Paul Manz

***We gather for refreshments in the Commons Room immediately following the service.
All are welcome to participate
and check out the kiosk for more ways to Walk in Love!***

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A Prayer for Parish Discernment

*Almighty and gracious God,
You have called us together as stewards of your Church,
entrusting us with the responsibility to lead and serve your people.
As we gather to discern your will for the next shepherd of this parish,
open our hearts to your Spirit and guide us with wisdom and grace.*

*Grant us clarity of vision, humility in our decisions, and unity in purpose,
that we may faithfully seek the one you are raising up to lead us in love, service, and faith.*

*Bless the candidates in their own journeys of discernment,
and bless this parish with patience and trust in your timing.*

*May our conversations be marked by kindness and respect,
and may your light illumine the path we are called to follow.*

We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd and Savior. Amen.