

# *The Second Sunday after the Epiphany*



## **Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

January 18, 2026

10:30 a.m.

**Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You**

*130 39<sup>th</sup> 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 worshippers.*

*Please return to the basket as you depart.*

Prelude

# The Liturgy of the Word

**Processional Hymn**

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Hymnal 7

**Opening Acclamation**

BCP p. 355

*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 says)*

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** *(The following is sung, all standing)*

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 glory 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.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

**First Reading:** Isaiah 49:1-7 *(The people sit.)*

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands,  
pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The LORD called me before I was born,

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.  
<sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me away.  
<sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."  
<sup>4</sup>But I said, "I have labored in vain,  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,  
and my reward with my God."  
<sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says,  
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
and my God has become my strength—  
<sup>6</sup>he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."  
<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
the slave of rulers,  
"Kings shall see and stand up,  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the LORD, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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

**The Gradual:** Psalm 40:1-12            (*Spoken in unison.*)

***<sup>1</sup>I waited patiently upon the LORD; \****  
***he stooped to me and heard my cry.***  
***<sup>2</sup>He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; \****  
***he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.***  
***<sup>3</sup>He put a new song in my mouth,***  
***a song of praise to our God; \****  
***many shall see, and stand in awe,***  
***and put their trust in the LORD.***  
***<sup>4</sup>Happy are they who trust in the LORD! \****  
***they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.***  
***<sup>5</sup>Great things are they that you have done, O LORD my God!***  
***how great your wonders and your plans for us! \****  
***there is none who can be compared with you.***  
***<sup>6</sup>Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! \****



“Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”<sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.<sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.<sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).<sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

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

## The Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan Stepp

## Anthem

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*  
*(sung by the choir)*

James Weldon Johnson

Lift ev’ry voice and sing,  
Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the list’ning skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun  
Of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chast’ning rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over away that with tears has been watered;  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;  
Out from the gloomy past,  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who hast by thy might,  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee,  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.

*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.)

Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

We pray for those on our parish prayer list. For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo, and in the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for St. Paul's, Edneyville, St. Paul's, Morganton, St. Paul's, Wilkesboro. For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and José our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

***Who put their trust in you.***

*The Celebrant concludes with a Collect.*

## **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. 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.*



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 Blessed 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.



## **The Lord's Prayer**

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

*People and Celebrant*

***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.***

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

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

**Fraction Anthem**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*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**

*Will you come and follow me*

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

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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

BCP p. 366

## Recessional Hymn

*Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult*

Hymnal 550

## Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*

*Thanks be to God.*

## Postlude

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### Ministers of the Service

Celebrant: The Rev. Jonathan Stepp  
Mary Michele Millholen - Chaliceist  
Jeff Mackie – Chaliceist  
Randy Truitt - Lector  
Michael and Blake Camby – Acolytes  
Chris, Jacob, and Caleb Crenshaw – Acolytes  
Steve Snyder – Usher  
Bruce Smith - Usher

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### Vestry Members

Judy Caywood - Senior Warden  
Bill Perrin - Junior Warden  
Charlie Brantley  
Jane Earl  
Susan Hook  
Ingrid Peake  
Bucky Robbins  
Kay Sigmon  
Bruce Smith  
Chris Oram - Vestry Clerk  
Ellen Robbins – Treasurer

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### Those Who Serve You

**The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe** - Presiding Bishop & Primate of The Episcopal Church  
**The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin** - Bishop, Diocese of Western NC  
**The Rev. Jonathan Stepp** - Priest-in-Charge  
**Doug Brady** - Organist  
**Janet Dzieszinski** - Financial Administrator  
**Cami Roberts** - Director of Family Formation  
**Tammy Shook** - Director of Parish Music and Handbells  
**Lauren Timmons** - Associate Director of Parish Music and CantorKids Director  
**Kim Wagner** – Parish Administrator