

**ADVENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**3760 Dover Center Road**  
**Westlake, OH 44145**  
**440-871-6685**

**February 23, 2025**

**10:00 a.m.**

**The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**Holy Eucharist – Rite II – The Word of God**

**PRELUDE**

**PROCESSIONAL #362 Holy, Holy, Holy**

**OPENING SALUTATION & RESPONSE**

**BCP 355**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for 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.**

*All standing, sing*

**THE GLORIA**

**BCP 356**

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,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with  
thanksgiving.

**COMMUNION HYMN Let Us Be Bread**

Refrain:

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord,  
broken and shared, life for the world.  
Let us be wine, love freely poured.  
Let us be one in the Lord.

1. I am the bread of life, broken for all.  
Eat now and hunger no more. [Refrain]

2. You are my friends if you keep my commands,  
no longer servants but friends. [Refrain]

3. See how my people have nothing to eat.  
Give them the bread that is you. [Refrain]

4 As God has loved me so I have loved you.  
Go and live on in my love. [Refrain]

*The Celebrant says* Let us pray.

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (said by all)**

**BCP 365**

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 #657 Love Divine, All Love Excelling!**

**THE DISMISSAL**

**BCP 366**

**POSTLUDE**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 Great Amen** (sing) *Amen. Amen. Amen.* (2Xs)

*Celebrant 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD** **BCP 364**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**BCP 216**

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The people sit*

**READING**

**Genesis 45:3-11, 21-28**

**Pew Bible 50**

*Reader*

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

**Psalms 37:3-10**

**BCP 633**

- <sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the Lord and do good;\*  
dwell in the land and feed of its riches.
- <sup>4</sup> Take delight in the Lord,\*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him,\*  
and he will bring it to pass.
- <sup>6</sup> He will make your righteousness as clear as the light\*  
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the Lord\*  
and wait patiently for him.
- <sup>8</sup> Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers,\*  
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- <sup>9</sup> Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;\*  
do not fret yourself, it leads only to evil.
- <sup>10</sup> For evildoers shall be cut off,\*  
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.

**Psalm Response (sing)**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**READING 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Pew Bible 1206**

Reader The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL PROCESSION I Want To Walk As A Child of the Light**

1. I want to walk as a child of the light  
I want to follow Jesus  
God sent the stars to give light to the world  
The star of my life is Jesus

In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

2. I want to see the brightness of God  
I want to look at Jesus  
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path  
And show me the way to the Father

In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38 Pew Bible 1078**

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**The Sanctus (sing)** Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. (2Xs)  
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. (2Xs)

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**The Memorial Acclamation (sing)**

to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*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. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

**And also with you.**

*Then the Celebrant and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY

*Celebrant*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself  
for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

## PRESENTATION OF ALMS & OBLATIONS

## PREPARATION OF ELEMENTS

## DOXOLOGY

The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

*Praise him all creatures here below*

*Praise him above ye heavenly host*

*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

**BCP 361**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant says*

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.

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ

I want to be with Jesus

When we have run with patience the race

We shall know the joy of Jesus

In Him, there is no darkness at all

The night and the day are both alike

The Lamb is the light of the city of God

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

## SERMON

**Pastor Paul Laursen**

## NICENE CREED (all standing)

**BCP 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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## BCP 392, Form 6

*The Leader and People pray responsively#*

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.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

For our Presiding Bishop Rowe; our own Bishop Jolly; 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.***

Let us pray together:

***Our Father in heaven,***

***We pray with open hearts and minds to know your will for us.***

***Reveal to us the initiatives we should take:***

***For nourishing ourselves with your Word; for supporting each other in Christian fellowship; for taking the Gospel to outside communities; and for loving and serving others in the power of your Spirit. We are grateful for the pastoral encouragement you have provided us in this season. We are grateful for our lay leadership in their shouldering of extra burdens. Lord, we ask that you lay bare the hearts of this congregation and open each one of us to every new day. Open us to what you have for our future as a new church family in Christ.***

***Amen.***

O Lord, God of our fathers, your Advent people have stood steadfast in the truth of Your Word. We have strived to be the beacon of light in our corner of this world, guiding others to you. We search for the means to stay on this path together. We stand before you crying out to you. We know this battle belongs to You Lord. We cannot do this ourselves. As we walk on the path you have set before us, we sing your praises and give you thanks Lord! We know that you will show us the way. Amen.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept*

*Leader and People*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

in your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things done and left undone;

and so uphold us by your Spirit

that we may live and serve you in newness of life,