

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org

215-389-1513

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Ministry Assistants Today

Lector: Cathy Ufheil

Intercessor: Carol Jenkins

Usher: Mark Roberts

Altar Guild: Rachel Armstrong

Celebrant: Rev. Chris Micklewright

Organist: Adam Haines

Ministry Assistants January 25

Lector: Eric Rega

Intercessor: Seamus Stimpson

Usher: Jim Ufheil

Altar Guild: Jeanette Woehr

Celebrant: Rev. Chris Micklewright

Organist: Adam Haines

Welcome to the Epiphany at Gloria Dei Episcopal Church!

The Feast of the Epiphany, held on January 6, marks the official end of the Christmas season. However, Epiphany is much more than just a capstone to the beauty and pageantry of Christmas.

The word "Epiphany" comes from a Greek verb meaning "to appear," and the Feast of the Epiphany focuses on the appearance of the star that guided the Magi – the three wise men – to baby Jesus (you can read all about this in chapter 2 of Matthew's Gospel). The appearance of this great light will shape our worship for the next several weeks, so that we celebrate the Epiphany from now until the beginning of Lent.

Please join us throughout this season, as we ponder what it means for Jesus to appear in our lives, and as we seek to faithfully reflect God's light and love into the dark places of our world.

Prelude

Opening Hymn # 7

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Hymnal 1982

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

All And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

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.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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, worshipped, 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. *(Congregation is invited to sit for the readings.)*

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

Cathy Ufheil

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. 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. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." 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."

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-- 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."

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 40:1-12

I waited patiently upon the LORD; *

he stooped to me and heard my cry.

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.

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.

(continued...)

Happy are they who trust in the LORD! *
 they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.
 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.
 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! *
 but they are more than I can count.
 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure *
 (you have given me ears to hear you);
 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, *
 and so I said, "Behold, I come.
 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *
 'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'
 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
 behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O LORD, you know.
 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; *
 I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.
 You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; *
 let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you -- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn # 542 *Christ is the World's True Light*

Hymnal 1982

Gospel Reading

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John (1:29-42)**

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

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day.

(continued...)

It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). 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).

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Rev. Chris Micklewright

The sermon is an opportunity to reflect on and interpret the readings in light of the whole of Scripture and Christian tradition. You are always free to disagree with Rev. Chris, and you are more than welcome to reach out for further discussion of the readings and the ideas presented in the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

**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 (the intercessor and the people pray responsively)

Carol Jenkins

Celebrant: In this season of Epiphany, let us pray for God's light to shine in the darkness, using the words of Psalm 72. We begin with a few moments of silence. *(Long silence.)*

Intercessor: God of light, give to the people your justice; we pray especially for your church throughout the world, for our bishops, Sarah, Sean, and Daniel, for our priest, Chris, for our postulant, Rachel, and for this congregation.

People: Rule your people righteously, and the poor with justice. (Long pause for silent prayer)

Intercessor: God of light, you promise to defend the needy in our midst; care especially for immigrants, for refugees, and for all who feel afraid.

People: Rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor. (Long Pause for Silent Prayer)

Intercessor: God of light, your mercy lasts as long as the sun and moon endure, so we pray for our planet and for all those affected by climate change.

People: May mercy come down like rain upon mown fields, and like showers that water the earth. (Long Pause for Silent Prayer)

Intercessor: God of light, we remember the places of turmoil in our world, especially Ukraine, Venezuela, and Sudan, and we pray for a time when the righteous shall flourish.

People: **May there be an abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.**

(Long Pause for Silent Prayer)

Intercessor: God of light, we pray for those in authority, in our church, in our city, in our nation, and around the world, that they might recognize your authority over all creation.

People: **May the rulers bow down, and all the nations do service to God.**

(Long Pause for Silent Prayer)

Intercessor: God of light, we long for the deliverance of the poor and oppressed in their distress, and for your pity to be known among the lowly and needy. Today, we pray especially for:

People: **Harry, Monica, Amy, Alan, William, Betty, Angel, Dakota, Dina, Anthony, Rebecca, Beth, Seamus, Thomassina, Gregory, Julie, Denise, Jason, the Juline Family, Laurie, Jerry, Peggy, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack.**

(Long Pause for Further Names)

Intercessor: God of light, you redeem the lives of your people, and hold their blood dear in your sight. We pray for all who have died, **especially Lance Woodruff.**

People: *(Long Pause for Further Names)*

Celebrant: Blessed be the LORD GOD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds. May our eyes be open to God's light, and may we be faithful in God's service, that all the earth may be filled with God's glory.

People: **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God. *(Please kneel as you are able; a brief silence may be kept.)*

All **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, and 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.**

Celebrant 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.
Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *(Please share the peace by greeting your siblings in Christ.)*

Pre-Offertory Hymn # 543

O Zion, Tune Thy Voice

Hymnal 1982

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever. *-Psalm 40:12*

Collecting an offering is a way for us to remember that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are responsible to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code found on the back of the bulletin. After the collection, the offering is brought forward as we stand to sing together the following song of thanksgiving.

Flowingly, in 1

Unknown



Praise God from whom all Blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above all heavenly hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Details about our practice of communion are found after the Eucharist Prayer (below).

The Holy Communion – Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 1

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

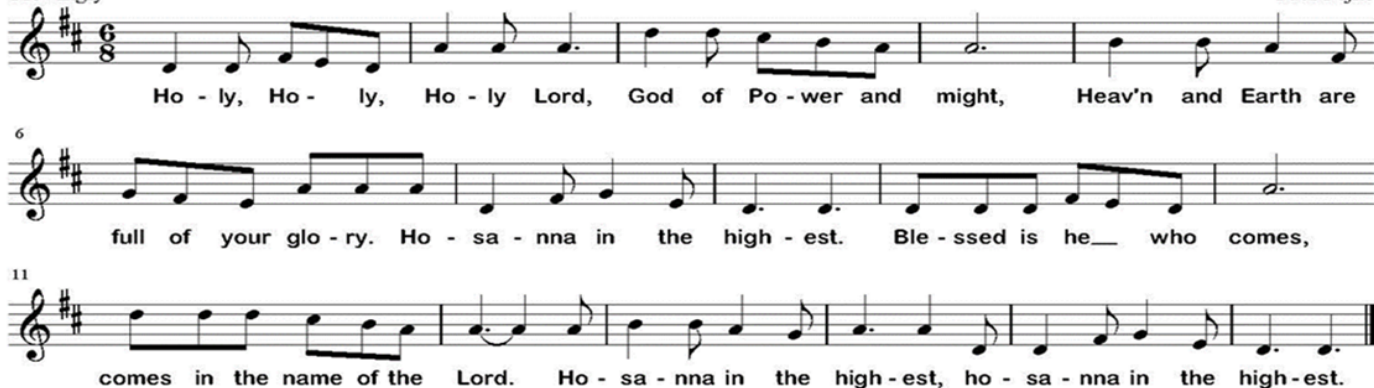
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Flowingly

Paul Fejko



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of Po - wer and might, Heav'n and Earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est. Ble - ssed is he who comes, comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est, ho - sa - nna in the high - est.

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Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own 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 your 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 and Hagar 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.

Celebrant On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant 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 these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People *(In a loud voice!)* **AMEN!**

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

All	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.
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Fraction & Invitation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant This is the table not of the church but of our Lord Jesus. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Jesus who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

*All those interested in receiving communion should make their way forward to the rail, while the elements are prepared for distribution to the congregation. Episcopal theology recognizes baptism as the formal entry into the Christian community, and baptism is normally a prerequisite to receiving communion. However, we also recognize that God meets us wherever we are on our journey of faith. Moreover, Jesus regularly welcomed and ate with people from outside of his normal community. **Therefore, all are welcome at this table - including children!***

Kneel or stand at the rail, as you are comfortable. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available – just hold up one finger to receive either of these alternative elements. The priest will distribute wafers, which you receive in your outstretched hands. If you wish to receive the cup, you may drink or dip your wafer; it is also okay to receive the wafer only – we believe that Jesus is fully present in each of the elements of communion. If you prefer not to receive, you are still warmly invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Celebrant Let us stand and pray together the post communion prayer.
All **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing Rev. Chris Micklewright

Announcements *Please pick up a sheet of announcements and upcoming events from the table in the back of the church. Some of the upcoming events will be highlighted here.*

Closing Collect **Almighty God, by the hand of Moses your servant you led your people out of slavery, and made them free at last: Grant that your Church, following the example of your prophet Martin Luther King, may resist oppression in the name of your love, and may strive to secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn # 535 **Ye Servants of God** Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*All are invited to listen to the postlude,
and then to join us for a time of fellowship in Riverside Hall.*

Gloria Dei Clergy and Staff

Rev. Dr. Chris Micklewright, Rector
440-865-1490, rector@old-swedes.org

Christine McBride, Parish Administrator
215-389-1513, info@old-swedes.org

Jim and Paula Minacci, Sextons

Adam Haines, Organist and Music Director

Gloria Dei Vestry

*Gabrielle Barbour, Ann Brilliant, Angel Guido, Re Henning, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden),
Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Cathy Ufheil (Secretary), Jeanette Woehr*

Online Giving Available

It is possible to give to Gloria Dei on our website,
www.old-swedes.org/give, or using the QR code:

