Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 23, 2025 * 10:00 am

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Jason Shelby

Deacon: The Rev. Celeste Stump



We warmly welcome you if you are here with us for the first time today. We joyfully welcome all people into our community without exception. Whoever you are, and whatever the status of your relationship with God, you will find fellow travelers here. Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service.

The Prelude and Postlude today have been chosen in honor of Black History Month.

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Gillian Cole in loving memory of Alan Cole, "our dad".

Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.

Coming Events

Sunday, Feb. 23

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Chapel
- 9:10 am Spiritual Formation Class: "Who is Jesus?"
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Monday, Feb. 24

- 6:00 pm St. Anne's Guild meeting
- 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, Feb. 25

7:00 pm Taizé service and reception

Wednesday, Feb. 26

- 10:00 am Healing & Reconciliation Holy Eucharist
- 5:00 pm Good Grief Group

Thursday, Feb. 27

1:00 pm Quilting and Knitting Group

Sunday, Mar. 2

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Chapel
- 9:10 am Spiritual Formation Class: "Who is Jesus?"
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Word of God

Please stand as able and join in singing.





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: "Hyfrydol," Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

The Opening Acclamation

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

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

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,

People 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.

Please remain standing as able and join in singing.

The Gloria



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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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*.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Reader A Reading from the book of Genesis.

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

The Response: Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

Reader Let us read from Psalm 37 responsively (the People reading the text in bold).



Com-mit your life to the Lord. Com-mit your life to the Lord.

Words: English translation from "Lectionary for Mass," Copyright © 1969, 1981, 1997 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.; All rights reserved. Music: Michel Guimont, from "Psalms for the Revised Common Lectionary," Copyright © 1998, 2002 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.

¹Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

²For they shall soon wither like the grass, *

and like the green grass fade away. ³Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *

dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

⁴Take delight in the LORD, *

and he shall give you your heart's desire.

Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, * and he will bring it to pass.

Refrain

⁶He will make your righteousness as clear as the light * and your just dealing as the noonday.

⁷Be still before the LORD *

and wait patiently for him.

⁸Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *

the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁹Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *

do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

¹⁰For evildoers shall be cut off, *

but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

¹¹In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *

you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

¹²But the lowly shall possess the land; *

they will delight in abundance of peace.

⁴¹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *

he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

⁴²The LORD will help them and rescue them; *

he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in him.

Refrain

Refrain

The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

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

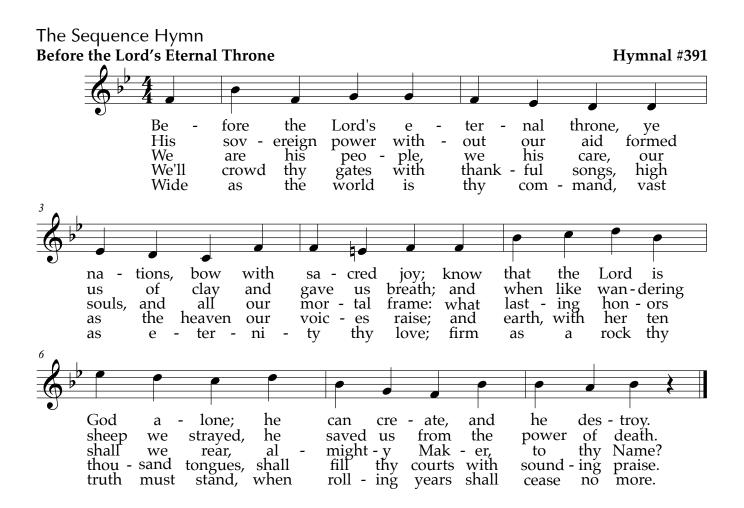
³⁵Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

Please stand as able and join in singing.



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100. Music: "Winchester New," melody from "Musicalishes Hand-Buch," 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

Please remain standing as able.

The Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, ²⁷"I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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

Please be seated.

The Sermon The Rev. Jason Shelby

There will be a moment of silence for reflection following the sermon.

Please stand as able and join in saying the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed

All

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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Please remain standing as able.

The Prayers of the People (the People read the responses in **bold**)

Deacon Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Deacon Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and

peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Deacon Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its

resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer.

Deacon Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve

Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Deacon Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage

and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy People **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be

fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal

kingdom.

Silence

Deacon Lord, in your mercy People Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only

what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please kneel or sit as able.

The Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All 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.

The Absolution

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.

Please stand as able.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Ministers and People exchange signs of peace in the name of the Lord.

Please be seated.

The Welcome and Announcements

Anyone who has a birthday or anniversary in the next week is invited to come forward for a blessing:

All Watch over your child(ren), O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide

them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loves us, bring offerings of praise and thanksgiving to his

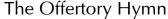
table.

The Offertory Anthem

"O Love" by Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go,
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee the back of the life I owe,
That in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.
O Joy, O Joy, O Joy that seeks me through the pain,
O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.
O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go,
O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back of the life I owe,
And in thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be.
O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go.

St. Francis Choir Mark Bassett, cellist



Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Hymnal #674





Words: Rosamond E. Herklots (1905-1987); by permission of Oxford University Press. Music: "Detroit," from " Supplement to Kentucky Harmony," acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922).

Please stand as able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And also with you. Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

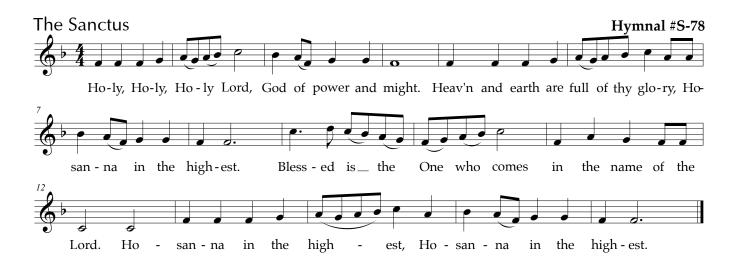
We lift them to the Lord. People

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Music: "Forest Green," English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958).

Please kneel or stand as able as 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.

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,

All We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

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 St. Francis 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*.

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

All

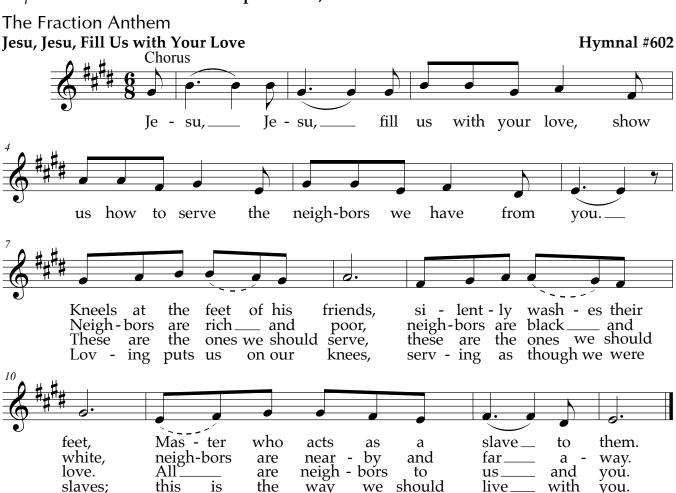
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.



Words: Ghanian; tr. Thomas Colvin (b. 1925), alt. Music: "Chereponi (Jesu, Jesu),"
Ghanian folk song, adapt. Thomas Colvin (b. 1925).
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The Invitation

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God, Holy gifts, for Holy people.

For our online community: an invitation to pray together the spiritual communion prayer from the National Cathedral. A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

If you have come with a particular prayer concern today, after receiving Communion you may come to the Nason Prayer Chapel to the right of the altar rail where you may light a candle and, if you wish, someone will be available to pray with you.

The Communion of the People

All are invited to receive Holy Communion. Please follow the directions of the ushers. If you do not wish to receive, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish Communion to be brought to you. Gluten-free Communion wafers are available. If you require one of these, simply ask.

The Communion Song

"Give Me Jesus" Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan Anthony Lowe, tenor Mark Bassett, cellist

Please kneel or stand as able as able.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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

Celebrant Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

People Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where

there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal

life. Amen.

Celebrant And, the blessing of God Almighty, **+** The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit

be with you always.

All Amen.

The Sending Forth

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Please stand as able and join in singing.



Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680); tr. "Hymnal 1940, alt. Music: "Lobe den Herren," melody from "Erneuerten Gesangbuch," 1665; harm. "The Chorale Book for England," 1863; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971); Descant, © 1953, Novello and Company Limited. Used by permission.

The Postlude Soon And Very Soon Andrae Crouch

Prayers this Week

We pray for all those who serve in the armed and foreign services, and for their families, especially Thomas, Drew Deley, Michael Heredia, Mark Kappelmann, Joseph Leahy, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Barry Witt, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve.

Those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or in any other kind of need or trouble: Albert, Andrea, Barbara Shelby, Billy Whelan, Bruce Schaefer, Carlos, Ceri Falk, Charlotte Baker, Chris, Colette Furbush, Daniel Drayling. Erica, Gail Winters, George Ginis, Hector Gutierrez, Jayne, Judy Morgan, Kathy Falk, Kristen, Krystal, Loren, Miguel Diaz, Patt Parker, Richard Cantine, Roxanne Wall, Roz Hadley, Sally Hill, Tommy, Tony Deley, the people of the Middle East, victims of violence everywhere, and for all those who have been impacted by the wildfires, especially the people of St. Matthew's and St. Mark's.

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

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