GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Holy Eucharist *Rite Two*

February 23, 2025 ◆ 10:00 a.m.

MISSION We exist to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love.

VISION

We are called to be a vibrant spiritual and educational community resource, radiating God's love for everyone, everywhere.

WELCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Jesus welcomed children and so do we. We don't mind wiggles and noise, but if you would prefer a quiet room when infants become fussy, one is located off the lobby. A window and sound system allow families to see and hear the service. Nursery care for children under three is available in the Ryon Building (office) for the 10 a.m. service and is well-staffed by caring adults. For children in preschool through 5th grade, Sunday School is available during the 10:00 service. Children leave the church during the service and go to their classes in the Ryon Building. Children join their families in church mid-service for communion. Be sure to ask the greeters for directions or help.

WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU

We are so glad you're here. Whether you're visiting for the first time or returning after some time away, we all belong in God's community. We'd love to get to know you better and stay connected! Please scan the QR code below to share your information with us. It's a simple way for us to welcome you personally, answer any questions, and let you know about upcoming events. You are always welcome here—just as you are.



About Today's Service

The Church is now in the Season of Epiphany. A season of four to nine weeks, from the Feast of the Epiphany (Jan. 6) through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The length of the season varies according to the date of Easter. Today we remember the Baptism of our Lord which is observed on the Sunday after Epiphany. We are called to respond to Christ in faith through the showings of his divinity recorded in the gospels of the Epiphany season.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

X

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

The people stand.

HYMN • 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

CelebrantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY Prayed by Celebrant

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.**

During the singing of the Gloria, the Sunday School children (age 3 - 5th grade) and their teachers will follow the acolyte down the aisle and go to their classrooms.

SONG OF PRAISE • S-236

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise; glory to you. Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you. Glory to you, seated between the cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to you. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet 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.**

The people are seated. **THE READINGS** THE FIRST READING

Joseph 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. Then 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. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For 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. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So 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. Hurry 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. You 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. I 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." And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

PSALM 37:1-12, 41-42 sung by all



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- 1 Do not fret yourself because of / evildoers; * do not be jealous of those who do / wrong.
- 2 For they shall soon wither like the / grass, * and like the green grass fade a-/ way.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do / good; * dwell in the land and feed on its / riches.
- 4 Take delight in the / LORD, * and he shall give you your heart's de-/ sire.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in / him, *
 - and he will bring it to / pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as The / light *
 - and your just dealing as the / noonday. Be still before the / LORD *
 - and wait patiently for / him.

7

8 Do not fret yourself over the one who / prospers, * the one who succeeds in evil / schemes.

- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage a-/ lone; * do not fret yourself; it leads only to / evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut / off, * but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the / land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no / more; * you shall search out their place, but they will not be / there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the / land; * they will delight in abundance of / peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from The / LORD; *

he is their stronghold in time of / trouble.

42 The LORD will help them and / rescue them; * he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because they seek refuge in / him.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And 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. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As 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. What 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.

HYMN • 674 "Forgive our sins as we forgive"

THE HOLY GOSPEL

PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If 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. But 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. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, 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."

PriestThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

A moment of quiet reflection will follow the sermon. The people stand. The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr.

LUKE 6:27-38

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 FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Loving God, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies; turn our hearts from stone to flesh and give us new life through the power of your love. Answer these prayers lifted to you as we say, Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

For the people of God everywhere, that they may be beacons of hope whose light shines forth to dispel fear and hate.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those with authority over our lives, that they might wield their power for the common good and with respect for the dignity of all people.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those in our lives who have caused us pain and hurt; lead them to an awareness of their impact and lead us to the path of forgiveness where those hurts have no hold on us. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** For our local communities – our neighbors, our co-workers, and our classmates, help us to sow the seeds of your kingdom in our daily interactions. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For our beleaguered earth, the garden where you have placed us; grant us wisdom as we discern how to be worthy stewards of this gift and give us strength and courage to persevere in its preservation. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all who live in pain, sickness, fear, or dread; sustain them with your grace that they might bear their suffering and grant us and awareness and a willingness to be their companions and caregivers. We pray especially those on our parish prayer list, and those we mention now either silently or aloud. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Hold in your care those who have died, especially Elaine Barber, aunt of Merike Seely, and those we remember now either silently or aloud. Welcome us into your eternal arms when our time comes, and let us all rise together in your new age.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Let us now pray for our own parish family.

Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of Good Shepherd truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. *Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do;* through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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

Silence is kept for a moment.

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.

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then are seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrant and People

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you as you celebrate your birthday or wedding anniversary this week, and always. **Amen.**

THE OFFERING

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

In this season of Epiphany, we celebrate the light of Christ revealed to the world and the call to reflect that light in our lives. Your offerings help Good Shepherd share the love of Jesus, bringing hope and healing to our community and beyond. Thank you for your generous support as we continue to shine Christ's light together.



OFFERTORY MUSIC

Canticle of Love

Scan to give now Arr. H. Hopson

The people stand.

DOXOLOGY • (blue Hymnal, 380 vs. 3)

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.

God of Light and Love, we give thanks for the gifts You have entrusted to us. As we offer these gifts back to You, bless them and bless us, that together we may reflect Your light and share Your love with the world. May these offerings and that which we have given online, bring hope to the hurting, peace to the troubled, food to the hungry, and joy to all who seek You. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, we pray. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.PeopleWe lift them to the Lord.CelebrantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt is right to give him 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:

Sanctus S-130

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel 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,

Celebrant and People

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 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,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

The Celebrant breaks the bread followed by a moment of silence.

FRACTION ANTHEM • S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to receive communion this morning, an ancient practice intended for all baptized Christians, no matter your tradition.

You may receive just the bread (which is full participation in the sacrament), or both the bread and the wine. As an alternative to sipping directly from the cup, you are invited to receive by intinction and the priest will dip the bread in a separate chalice for you. To receive by intinction please fold your hands in front of you at the altar rail to indicate your preference. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

For those not receiving communion, you may also cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.

If you would like special prayers for healing--whether it be physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual--members of the Healing Team are available to pray with you in the side chapel. Please notify an usher if you would like a Healing Team member to come to you.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION	Be Still	Lowe
congregation sings	Kneels at the feet of his friends	Hymn 602

SENDING FORTH EUCHARISTIC VISITORS When scheduled

- *Celebrant* In the name of God and of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts to N., that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.
- *People* We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

May mercy disarm you. May love undo you. May grace rise in you like a tide, pulling away every bitter stone.

What was meant for harm—God bends to good. What feels like loss—God breaks into blessing.

Go now, give without counting, forgive without fear, love without walls.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Be upon you now and forevermore. **Amen.**

THE SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CelebrantGo in peace to love and serve the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

TODAY'S SERVANT LEADERS

Celebrant and Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr.
Acolyte Server	Jack Grashof
Torch Bearers	Ben Bonneau, Alex Bonneau
Verger	Mike Grashof
Reader	Beth Bohnsack
Intercessor	Tom Valk
Eucharistic Ministers	Matt Ulman, Tracy and Larry Smith
Healing Ministers	Joan Engskow, Kate Gouery
Ushers	Kelly Bonneau, Marcia Cassidy
Greeters	Nancy Cole, Marilyn Lawrence
Vocalists	Ian Anderson, Peter Carras, Jenna Hoefort, Emily Kane, Hector
Organist	Mori, Gary Riggs, Loretta Smith, Tom Valk, Debbie White Timm Johnson-Reynolds
Livestream/Sound	Eric Pariseleti, Danny Vaz
Altar Guild	Wendy Frezza, Pam Mayer
Coffee Hour	Mike Howard
Flower Delivery	Stacey Ulman

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Sanford H. Groff, Jr., Rector Timm C. Johnson-Reynolds, Organist & Choir Director Heather Vaughn, Head of School Jo Wood, Director of Hospitality Debbie White, Assistant Choir Director Lynn Evans, Business Manager Mary Lou Crifasi, Office Coordinator & Interim Children's Minister Lisa Ellington, Office Assistant Beth Long, Thrift Store Manager Jennifer Johnson, Thrift Store Assistant Manager Erik Pariseleti, Technology Coordinator Danny Vaz, Assistant Livestream Coordinator Evelyn Seely, Digital Media Assistant Yolanda Aquilar, Custodian America Hernandez, Nursery Attendant Idalia Adams, Field Education Student Alexandra Serra-Wolfington, Field Education Student

OUR VESTRY

Dan Gilbert, Senior Warden Kevin Riddle, Junior Warden Carolyn Reikenis, Clerk Mike Greene, Treasurer Sophie Riddle, Youth Liaison Caroline Boren Dimitri Chimerakis George Creel Ron Doucette Kate Gouery Mike Grashof Julie Hirsch Larry Smith Janice Thomas



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