

Grace Episcopal Church

February 8, 2026

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Grace's Mission

We are disciples of Jesus, helping one another be the hands and feet of Christ
by sharing God's love with the world.

Opening Hymn

Thy Strong word did cleave the darkness

Blue Hymnal #381

Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Red Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p355

The Gloria

S-280(Front of Praise Book)

The Collect

BCP p 211

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced
righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of
their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

"Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not
notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast
day,
and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your
house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own
kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the
dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear
guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say,
Here I am.

[If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the
speaking of evil,

if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of
many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.]

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 112:1-9,[10]

Beatus vir

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his
commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the
land; *
the generation of the upright will be
blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the
upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of
compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in
lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting
remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not
shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their
enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for
ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

[10 The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine
away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.]

A reading from 1 Corinthians 2:1-12,[13-16]

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.]

Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

Blue Hymnal #488

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:13-20

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

”The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. J. Jeffrey Baker

The Nicene Creed

BCP p 358

Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP p 387

Let his resurrection power bring healing and hope to those for whom we pray, For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Especially we pray for Valorie Lephart, Vivian, Paul, Sue & Michael. Baby Drake, Aria, Charlie, Willow, George & Sandy Luther, Clare McElroy, Martha Mackey, Phil Bennett, Beth and Ray, Bill, Janet, Chris, Matthew, Janice, Carolyn Stacks, David Petro, Judith Junda, Sheila Smith, Kathy Hill, Sherry Occkial, Franny E., Kevin, Patty, Erin, Pat and Doug Newyear, Gail, Sue, Susan Shepherd, Katherine R., Bill Trsek, Mason and Riley Gumto

Today we celebrate the birthday of Peggy Burkacki.

A Prayer for Change: Lord, give us the courage to view the future with hope and expectancy and, most of all, with faith. In the face of change, help us set aside our fears, and urge us to seek and see your hand at work, while opening our hearts to recognize that change brings new life. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin		BCP 359
The Peace		BCP 360
Announcements		
Holy Communion		
Offertory Anthem		Grace Choir
The Doxology		Front of Praise Book
The Great Thanksgiving	<i>Eucharist Prayer A</i>	BCP 361
Sanctus	Holy, holy, holy, Lord	Front of Praise Book
Memorial Acclamation		Front of Praise Book
The Great Amen		Front of Praise Book
The Breaking of the Bread		BCP p 364
Fraction Hymn	Lamb of God	Front of Praise Book
Communion Hymn	When I Survey the wondrous Cross	Blue Hymnal #474
The Post-Communion Prayer		BCP p 366
The Blessing		
Closing Hymn	Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word	Blue Hymnal #440
The Dismissal		

Announcements

Thank you Scouts for sharing in our service today. Please stop by their Bake sale after the service for some yummy treats. Ask them what they are working toward.

Articles, dates and pictures are due for the PACE Monday Feb. 23rd.