

The Church of St. Paul, Cambria

Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist

• Fourth Epiphany • Year B • January 28, 2024 •

Opening Hymn 132

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.
Amen.**

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.**

Penitential Rite

O God, you reveal the signs of your presence among us in the church, in the liturgy and in our brothers and sisters. Let no word of yours ever fall by the wayside or be rendered ineffective through our indifference or neglect. Rather, make us quick to recognize your saving plan whenever we encounter it, and keep us ready always to serve as prophets and apostles of your kingdom.

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

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.

Lord, open our lips
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. (Isaiah 49:6b)

Jubilate: Psalm 100

1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands;* serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

- 2 Know this: The LORD himself is God;* he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving: go into his courts with praise;* give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
- 4 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting;* and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Psalm 139:1-6,13-18

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; * you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before * and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? * where can I flee from your presence?
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; * your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 My body was not hidden from you, * while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; * they were fashioned day by day, when as yet there was none of them.
- 16 How deep I find your thoughts, O God! * how great is the sum of them!
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; * to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.
- 18 Oh, that you would slay the wicked, O God! * You that thirst for blood, depart from me.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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, worshiped, 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.**

First Lesson First Book of Samuel (3:1-10)

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle G: A Song of Ezekiel *Ezekiel 36:24-28*

I will take you from among all nations; * and gather you from all lands to bring you home.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; * and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.
A new heart I will give you * and a new spirit put within you.
I will take the stone heart from your chest * and give you a heart of flesh.
I will help you walk in my laws * and cherish my commandments and do them.
You shall be my people, * and I will be your God.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be. **Amen**

The **second lesson** is from the First Book of Corinthians (6:12-20)

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make

them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle L: A Song of Christ's Humility *Philippians 2:6-11*

Though in the form of God, * Christ Jesus did not cling to equality with God,
But emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, * and was born in human likeness.
Being found in human form, he humbled himself * and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.
Therefore, God has highly exalted him * and given him the name above every name,
That at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow, * in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, * to the glory of God the Father.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be. Amen.

The Holy **Gospel** of our Lord according to St. John (1:43-51)

Glorify to you, Lord Christ.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Here follows a affirmation of faith,

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

The Prayers of the People

Called together as a family of faith from every time and place, we are bidden by God to pray. That we might share our mutual concerns and offer the secrets of our hearts, let us pray, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

(As you are moved by the Spirit, read one or more the following petitions.)

Let us pray for the world; for the leaders of nations, that wisdom and integrity might prevail; for regions torn by conflict, especially the land of our Lord's birth and ministry, that peace and harmony might be restored: (Silence.) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the church; for the unity of the body of Christ, that needless divisions might cease; for Lucinda our bishop; for Mark our priest, and for all who nurture our life together, that the body may be strengthened and our common life enriched: (Silence.) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for this parish; for our presence in this community, that persons may find here the means to a deeper relationship with God; and for our ministry of reconciliation, that all may find here the forgiveness of God and the acceptance of each other: (Silence.) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those in need; for the hungry and homeless, that food and shelter might be theirs; for the oppressed and downtrodden, that freedom and

dignity might be theirs; for the sick and the infirm, that health and wholeness might be theirs.

(Silence.) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Let us pray for the well being and safety of all those who serve in the armed forces of our nation, and those who put their lives on the line as first responders in times of crises, especially those related to members of our congregation. (Silence.) **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the faithful who have gone before us, that we may follow the example of their lives and be reunited with them in the joy of everlasting life. (Silence.) **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

By your power, dear God, you raised Christ Jesus and in him we too will be raised. Receive our prayers and those of all your saints, that trusting in you all the days of our lives, we may know the fullness of your love and the power of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn 574

Prayer over the gifts: Living God, you have revealed your Son as the Messiah. May we hear his word and follow it, living as children of light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It 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 you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love . . .
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, . . .

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. **AMEN.**

Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom as Jesus
taught us:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as
in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive
us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from
evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours, now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We, being many, are one body, for we all share in
the one bread.**

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of
the world. Blessed are those who are called to the
banquet of the Lamb.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Faithful God, help us always to hear the prophet's
call to turn our hearts to you. Let us pray.

**Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for
feeding us with the spiritual food of the most**

**precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior
Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy
mysteries that we are living members of the Body
of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you
have given us to do, to love and serve you as
faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to
you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the
Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical
communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of
spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we
commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in
union with Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessings

Lord strengthen your people, every day of their lives
that they remain faithful to you and always rejoice
in your mercy.

And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and
Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many
blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love
that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our
lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to
live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing hymn 782 WLP

Go forth in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to Go