

Last Sunday After the Epiphany

March 2, 2014



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
1512 Willow
Blytheville, AR 72315

The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas
Fr. John Scott Trotter

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Entrance Rites

The people stand as they are able.

Opening Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #122 - Alleluia, song of gladness: to the music of 518

- 1 Alleluia, song of gladness,
voice of joy that cannot die;
alleluia is the anthem
ever raised by choirs on high;
in the house of God abiding
thus they sing eternally.
- 2 Alleluia thou resoundest,
true Jerusalem and free;
alleluia, joyful mother,
all thy children sing with thee;
but by Babylon's sad waters
mourning exiles now are we.
- 3 Alleluia though we cherish
and would chant for evermore
alleluia in our singing,
let us for a while give o'er,
as our Savior in his fasting
pleasures of the world forbore.
- 4 Therefore in our hymns we pray thee,
grant us, blessèd Trinity,
at the last to keep thine Easter
with thy faithful saints on high;
there to thee for ever singing
alleluia joyfully.

Opening Acclamation

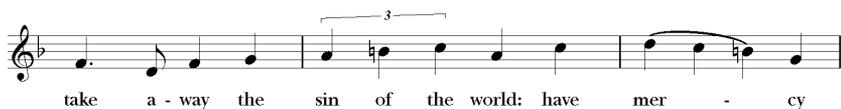
Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
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.*

Song of praise

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #280





Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The people sit.

The Word of God

First Reading

A reading from The Book of Exodus (24:12-18).

¹²The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” ¹⁵Then Moses went up the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh

day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord
People
Thanks be to God

A period of silence is kept.

Psalm 2

BCP p. 586

Quare fremuerunt gentes?

- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar? *
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
- 2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
and the princes plot together, *
against the LORD and against his Anointed?
- 3 “Let us break their yoke,” they say; *
“let us cast off their bonds from us.”
- 4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
the Lord has them in derision.
- 5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
and his rage fills them with terror.
- 6 “I myself have set my king *
upon my holy hill of Zion.”
- 7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
he said to me, “You are my Son;
this day have I begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for
your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

- 10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
 be warned, you rulers of the earth.
- 11 Submit to the LORD with fear, *
 and with trembling bow before him;
- 12 Lest he be angry and you perish; *
 for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- 13 Happy are they all *
 who take refuge in him!

A period of silence is kept.

Second Reading

A reading from The Second Letter of Peter (1:16-21).

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord
People
Thanks be to God

A period of silence is kept.

The people stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #618 - Ye watchers and ye holy ones

Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (17:1-9).

Praise to you, Lord Christ

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord
People
Glory to you, Lord Christ

The people sit.

Sermon

The people stand as they are able.

The Nicene Creed

All say together

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.

The people stand or kneel as they are able

Prayers of the People

Intercessor: 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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

A period of silence is kept.

O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Penitential Sentence

The Presider then says

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel as they are able.

A period of silence is kept.

Confession of Sin

All say together

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.

Absolution

Bishop or Priest

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 Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The people sit.

Our work this week

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

The people kneel or stand, as they are able.

Then 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;

The Celebrant continues

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 [_____ 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

The People respond Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***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

A period of silence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #167

This setting is not used in Lent.

Antiphon

Cantor; then All



The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

Cantor



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

The Priest invites the people to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with
thanksgiving.

*All are invited to receive communion. Come to the rail, extend your
hands one over the other, the minister will place bread in your palm,
which you consume; to receive wine raise your hands, the minister will*

offer you the chalice, please guide it to your lips and sip. If you choose 16 not to receive your may receive a blessing; cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you. You may choose to remain seated

Communion Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #339 - Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness,

The people stand as they are able.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People

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.

Blessing

The Bishop or Priest says

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth. *Amen.*

May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts. *Amen.*

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

Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #427 - When morning gilds the skies

Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Prayers

Ronnie, Joe, Bill, Chris, John, Buzz, Dale, Angie, Marcel, Corbet, Evan, Harry, Cooper Richey, Charles, Renee, Carolyn, Sam, Sandra, Chris and family, Debbie, "E", Sarah and Ray, Leila & Diana Khouny, Claude, Jessica Williams and her family, Larry, Vince, John and Deb, Peggy and Dave, Charles, Tucker & Ellen, Adam, Jenna, Mary-Gay, Carter & Charles, Dennis, Alice, Dennis and Molly Hay, Rey, Sarah and Family, the Quinn family, those suffering from seasonal storms and fires, meals on wheels, making better men of young men, those serving our country, those traveling, and for those we now name...

Calendar

3/2 Last Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 am Worship

10:00 fellowship & Sunday School

3/4 5:00 pm Shrove Tuesday

3/5 7:00 am Ash Wednesday – imposition of Ashes

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm Ashes on Main

3/7 6:00 pm Friday Families

3/9 1st Sunday in Lent

9:00 am Worship

10:00 fellowship & Sunday School

Announcements

Ash Wednesday; 7 am Imposition of Ashes; 4 till 6 join me for Ashes on Main

Holy Week and Easter Services on our Web Site

Ministry Support -

March 9 - 16 suggestions for ministries to support;

Prayerful considerations March 23 through 30;

Red Dot Voting 6 through April 13;

announcement on Easter

The Gift of Healing Prayer Retreat

March 13–15, at Camp Mitchell This retreat will teach you a method of prayer that can be effectively used by clergy and laity to bring healing to those who need God's healing touch. (Read more about Gift of Healing Prayer training at houseofblessing.org.) It will be facilitated by Fr. Jos Tharakan. Call him at 479-259-1777 or 479-968-3622 for more information and registration.

On Thursday, March 6, 2014, the Southern Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Gregory Fuller, from the University of Southern Mississippi, will perform at the Adams/Vines recital hall at 10 a.m. This hour long concert is a treat for our area. **The Southern Chorale** is the primary vocal touring ensemble at the University of Southern Mississippi. The group has appeared at numerous meetings of ACDA and MENC, including national conventions in Chicago, Los Angeles, and the Southern Division of ACDA in Memphis. Recent endeavors include a recording project of the music of native Mississippi composer James Mulholland and a performance of the Mass in B Minor by JS Bach. In the last decade, the Southern Chorale toured Europe, Mexico, and Jamaica. In 2005, Manhattan Concert Productions hosted the Chorale for a Hurricane Katrina Relief concert in Carnegie Hall. Most recently, the Southern Chorale performed William Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* with the Transylvania Philharmonic (Cluj, Romania) in May of 2013.

Worship Leaders

Date/ proper	Service	EM Worship Ldr	reader	Intercessor
3/2 Last Epiphany	Eucharist	Beth McGrain		Pat McGrain
3/5 Ash Wed.	Ashes & Eucharist	Liz Cato		Connie Erwin
3/9 1 st in Lent	Eucharist	Connie Erwin		Beth McGrain

Cycle of Prayer

- St. Theodore's, Bella Vista
- 2** St. Matthew's, Benton
The Standing Committee
St. Stephen's, Blytheville
Calvary, Osceola
- 3** Executive Council
Historiographer, Michael McNeely
- St. John's, Camden
- 4** Larry Maze, retired bishop
St. Andrew's, Cherokee Village
- 5** St. Peter's, Conway
Diocesan office and staff
St. Mark's, Crossett
- 6** St. Mary's, El Dorado
Herbert Donovan, retired bishop
St. James', Eureka Springs
- 7** Grace, Siloam Springs
St. Thomas', Springdale
- St. Paul's, Fayetteville
- 8** St. Martin's University Center, Fayetteville

Sunday 02-Mar-2014 Epiphany 8 Psalm: 118: 1,2,17-20 I Cor. 9: 1-15

PRAY for Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo The Most Revd Kahwa Henri Isingoma
Archbishop of the Congo & Bishop of Kinshasa

Monday 03-Mar-2014 Psalm: 17: 1-8 I Cor. 9: 16-27

Bath & Wells - (Canterbury, England) Vacant Bath & Wells - Taunton - (Canterbury, England)
The Rt Revd Peter David Maurice

Tuesday 04-Mar-2014 Psalm: 30: 1-5 I Cor. 10: 1-13

Bathurst - (New South Wales, Australia) The Rt Revd Ian Palmer Assistant Bishop of Bathurst -
(New South Wales, Australia) The Rt Revd John Stead

Wednesday 05-Mar-2014 Ash Wednesday Psalm: 19 Ro. 1:18-32

Bauchi - (Jos, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Musa Tula

Thursday 06-Mar-2014 Psalm: 17:1-11 Job 1

Belize - (West Indies) The Rt Revd Philip Wright

Friday 07-Mar-2014 Psalm: 88:11-18 Job 2

Bendigo - (Victoria, Australia) The Rt Revd Andrew William Curnow

Saturday 08-Mar-2014 Psalm: 62:1-8 Ro. 2:1-16

Benin - (Bendel, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Peter Imasuen

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