

**The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany**  
**February 23, 2025**

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Hymns are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* in your pew.  
The 'S' numbers are located at the front of the hymnal.

The service begins in quiet and prayer.

**Prelude:** *Trio Sonata no. 3 in D Minor, BWV 537* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)  
II. Adagio e dolce

**THE WORD OF GOD**

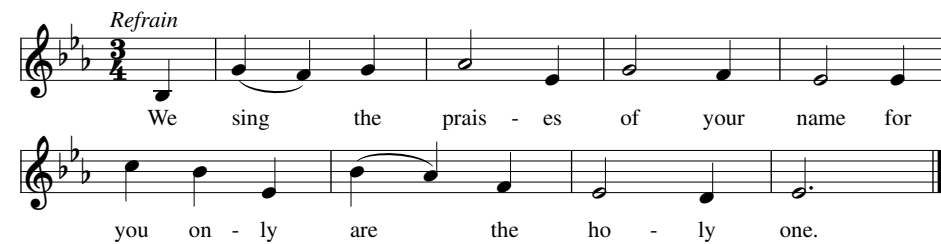
**Processional Hymn 390:** *Praise to the Lord*

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

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

*People* **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.**

**Canticle of Praise:** *The Song of the Redeemed*



O ruler of the universe, Lord God  
great deeds are they that you have **done**, \*  
surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and **truth**, \*  
O king of all the **ages**. *Refrain*

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your **Name**? \*  
for you only are the holy **One**.

All nations will draw near and fall down **before you**, \*  
because your just and holy works have been **revealed**. *Refrain*

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**. *Refrain*

**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**.

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

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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 37:1-12; 41, 42**



**Choir** Do not fret yourself because of evil doers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**ALL** For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.

**Choir** Put your trust in the LORD and do good; \*  
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

**ALL** Take delight in the LORD, \*  
and he shall give you your heart's desire.

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

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

**Choir** Be still before the LORD \*  
and wait patiently for him.

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

**Choir** Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; \*  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

**ALL** For evildoers shall be cut off, \*  
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.

**Choir** In a little while the wicked shall be no more; \*  
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

**ALL** But the lowly shall possess the land; \*  
they will delight in abundance of peace.

**Choir** But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; \*  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**ALL** 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 Lesson:** *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. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man 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.**

**Sequence Hymn 445:** *Praise to the Holiest in the Height*

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Gospel:** *Luke 6:27-38*

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."

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

**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.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Please stand or kneel*

Sisters and brothers, let us lift our hearts in faith to the one who hears all prayers and holds close all those in need. *A brief silence.* Sustaining God, we give you thanks for the church, this congregation, and for the opportunities and challenges that you provide for us. Help us to do the good work you have given us to do. We pray that you will guide our hearts and minds as we seek to serve your children throughout this community and the world. Strengthen and renew all who serve you in this place.

*People* **God of love and mercy, hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we pray for our nation. We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and respect for differences. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace in this land. **God of love and mercy, hear our prayer.**

Heavenly God, you have filled the world with beauty: open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works, that rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness. Bless those who grow the food we eat, and grant that we may all share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness. **God of love and mercy, hear our prayer.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, remembering especially those on our prayer list. *Pause* Give them a sense of your healing presence, and restore them to the wholeness and peace that only you can provide. **God of love and mercy, hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, we pray for those who are dear to each of us. *Silence* 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. **God of love and mercy, hear our prayer.**

Living God, we commend to your mercy all who have died, remembering especially Kent Bernard, who died this week; Bernadine D. Mack, in whose memory the flowers are given this week, and all those we love but see no longer. *Silence* We thank you for giving them to us, their family and friends, to know and to love as companions on our earthly pilgrimage. Surround them with your presence, give to them eternal rest, and let light perpetual shine upon them. **God of love and mercy, hear our prayer.**

Holy God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring healing to all wounds, make whole all that is broken, speak truth to all illusion, and shed light in every darkness, that all creation will see your glory and know your Christ. **Amen.**

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

**Offertory Anthem: Ubi Caritas** Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)  
The St. Andrew's Adult Choir

## Children's Entrance Hymn 568: Father All Loving, Who Ruleth in Majesty

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.*

### Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

\*\*Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant gives thanks for the reconciling work of Christ through his passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.*

*Celebrant* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*People* **Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer.*

*Celebrant* By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit of all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,  
**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 for ever. Amen.**

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

## Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

*Cantor* Al - le - lu - ia. *Choir* Al - le - lu - ia. *Congregation & Choir* Al - le - lu -

ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Please come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the bread in your outstretched palm (Consecrated rice wafers are available for those with wheat allergies - simply ask the priest). You may dip (intinct) the bread in the wine in the small cup held by the Eucharistic minister. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire to drink from the common chalice by consuming the bread and remaining at the rail after the Eucharistic minister passes; another Eucharistic minister will bring the large chalice over for you to drink from directly. Please know that Christ is fully present in both the bread and the wine - there is no requirement to receive both. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward, cross your hands over your chest, and receive a blessing.*

**Communion Voluntary: Matinata** Kathleen Wissinger (b. 1956)  
The St. Andrew's Junior Handbell Choir

**Communion Voluntary: Rhosymedre (Three Welsh Hymns)**  
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

## Communion Hymn 581: Where Charity and Love

*When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are taking Holy Communion to those unable to be with us in person, we say the following*

*Celebrant* In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, 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, one cup.**

## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*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.**

## The Blessing

**Closing Hymn 657: Love Divine All Loves Excelling**

## Dismissal

*The young people are invited to come forward during the hymn to participate in the dismissal.*

*Young people* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: Hyfrydol (Three Welsh Hymns)** Ralph Vaughan Williams

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